

March 16, 2001

Mr. J. H. Swailes  
Vice President of Nuclear Energy  
Nebraska Public Power District  
P. O. Box 98  
Brownville, NE 68321

SUBJECT: COOPER NUCLEAR STATION - WITHDRAWAL OF AN AMENDMENT  
REQUEST (TAC NO. MA8493)

Dear Mr. Swailes:

By letter dated March 17, 2000, Nebraska Public Power District (the licensee or District) applied for an amendment that proposed a change to Operating License No. DPR-46. The proposed change would have modified the facility's technical specifications (TSs). The changes were necessary for the District to incorporate the recommendations of Generic Letter (GL) 99-02 regarding laboratory testing of nuclear-grade activated charcoal.

Subsequently, by letter dated January 2, 2001, the licensee withdrew the amendment request and stated that, based on conversation with the NRC, it has concluded that the requested changes cannot be processed until the licensee completes its revised design basis accident radiological assessment methodology for Cooper Nuclear Station. Withdrawal of the licensee's request was predicated on the need to resolve issues concerning the radiological assessment calculational methodology. The NRC staff has noted that the licensee will submit a revised request for change to the facility's TSs that will permit incorporation of the recommendations of GL 99-02.

The Commission has filed the enclosed "Notice of Withdrawal of Application for Amendment to Facility Operating License," with the Office of the Federal Register for publication. TAC No. MA8493 is closed.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Mohan C. Thadani, Senior Project Manager, Section 1  
Project Directorate IV & Decommissioning  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-298

Enclosure: Notice of Withdrawal

cc w/encl: See next page

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Cooper Nuclear Station

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

DOCKET NO. 50-298

NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL OF APPLICATION FOR

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has granted the request of Nebraska Public Power District (the licensee) to withdraw its March 17, 2000, application for the proposed amendment to Facility Operating License No. DPR-46 for the Cooper Nuclear Station, located in Nemaha County, Nebraska.

The proposed amendment would have revised the Technical Specifications to permit the licensee to incorporate the requirements of Generic Letter 99-02 regarding laboratory testing of nuclear-grade activated charcoal.

The Commission had previously issued a Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment published in the FEDERAL REGISTER on May 3, 2000 (65 FR 25766). However, by letter dated January 2, 2001, the licensee withdrew the proposed change.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated March 17, 2000, and the licensee's letter dated January 2, 2001, which withdrew the application for license amendment. Documents may be examined, and/or copied for a fee, at the NRC's

Public Document Room, located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland, and accessible electronically through the ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room link at the NRC Web site (<http://www.nrc.gov>).

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 16<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2001.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

*/RA/*

Mohan C. Thadani, Senior Project Manager, Section 1  
Project Directorate IV & Decommissioning  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation