

August 14, 2003

MEMORANDUM TO: Stephen Dembek, Chief, Section 2  
Project Directorate IV  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Alan Wang, Project Manager, Section 2 /RA/  
Project Directorate IV  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF CONFERENCE CALL HELD ON JULY 29, 2003, WITH  
OMAHA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT (OPPD) REGARDING THEIR FIRE  
PROTECTION EXEMPTION FOR FIRE AREA 32 (TAC NO. MB6746)

On July 29, 2003, representatives of OPPD had a teleconference with the staff (Plant Systems and Probabilistic Safety Assessment branches and Projects) to discuss OPPD's exemption request for fire area 32 for the Fort Calhoun Station, Unit 1 (FCS). OPPD provided a short history of the issue. This exemption is needed as a result of a January 2000 Triennial Fire Protection Team Inspection which resulted in a Notice of Violation. The licensee contested the violation twice. They were denied and subsequently proposed a clarification to the exemption, which was also denied. After a request for additional information and several telecons, the staff informed OPPD that we were considering denying the exemption based on the fire analyses provided to date. As a result of this possible decision, the licensee proposed this teleconference to express their concerns that the staff did not have a full appreciation of the configuration of fire area 32 and the fire hazard analyses that had been provided. The staff noted that based on our review of the deterministic analyses, fire area 32 was marginal in meeting various safety criteria and that the probabilistic risk assessment (PRA) arguments were not of sufficient detail. OPPD agreed that the PRA was lacking, but noted that it was not their intention to provide a risk-based argument, only a risk-informed submittal. OPPD proposed a site visit to help clear up some of these misunderstandings. Suzanne Black (Director, Division of Systems Safety and Analysis) noted that we want to provide OPPD a fair opportunity to make their case and that the staff will support this site visit. OPPD has proposed a two-day meeting either the first or second week of September 2003 at the site. OPPD has also agreed to withdraw its November 8, 2002, exemption request and resubmit the exemption request to clarify their position regarding the use of PRA. This would be done prior to the site visit. The staff agreed that we would provide an agenda for the visit to clarify our areas of interest.

An attendance list is provided in the attachment.

Docket No. 50-285

Attachment: Attendees of Teleconference

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**ADAMS Accession No.: ML032260124**

\* See Previous Concurrence

NRC-001

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**ATTENDEES**

**TELECONFERENCE WITH OMAHA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT**

**EXEMPTION FOR FIRE AREA 32**

**JULY 29, 2003**

**OMAHA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT**

Gary Cavanaugh  
Jim McMagnus

**NRC**

Suzanne Black  
Mike Johnson  
John Hannon  
Mike Tschiltz  
Phil Qualls  
Naeem Iqbal  
Stephen Dinsmore  
Alan Wang