

June 23, 2006

Mr. Rick A. Muench
President and Chief Executive Officer
Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation
Post Office Box 411
Burlington, KS 66839

SUBJECT: WOLF CREEK GENERATING STATION - CLOSEOUT OF LICENSEE'S
RESPONSE TO GENERIC LETTER 2006-03, "POTENTIALLY
NONCONFORMING HEMYC AND MT FIRE BARRIER CONFIGURATIONS"
(TAC NO. MD1649)

Dear Mr. Muench:

By letter dated May 31, 2006 (ET 06-0022), the Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation (the licensee) responded to Generic Letter (GL) 2006-03, "Potentially Nonconforming Hemyc and MT Fire Barrier Configurations," for the Wolf Creek Generating Station (WCGS). Under oath or affirmation, the licensee stated that it does not use either the Hemyc or MT fire barrier system for fire barrier separation of redundant post-fire safe shutdown trains. Instead, Darmatt KM-1 (predominant fire barrier material) and Thermo-Lag 330-1 (limited applications) are used for raceway fire barrier protection for these trains. It is also stated that both these fire protection materials meet 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix R, III.G requirements, as discussed in the WCGS Updated Safety Analysis Report, and have been installed consistent with industry fire testing, with unique configurations that are not directly bounded to tested configurations evaluated in accordance with GL 86-10, Supplement 1, "Fire Endurance Test Acceptance Criteria for Fire Barrier Systems Used to Separate Redundant Safe Shutdown Trains Within the Same Fire Area," dated March 25, 1994. This evaluation is to assure that the installed fire barrier systems provide the required level of fire protection. The fire-rated enclosures are inspected by the licensee every 18 months to ensure the ongoing integrity of the fire barriers.

Based on the letter dated May 31, 2006, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff concludes that the fire barrier systems at WCGS, that separate redundant safe shutdown trains located within the same fire area, have been designed and installed in accordance with current NRC guidance. The basis for your conclusion that these fire barriers have been designed and installed in accordance with NRC guidance should be maintained on site and will be subject to inspection during the normal NRC inspection process. This letter closes out the NRC staff review of your response to GL 2006-03 for WCGS. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at 301-415-1307.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Jack Donohew, Senior Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch IV
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-482

cc: See next page

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Docket No. 50-482

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(letter changes checked with AFPB - jnd 06/20/06)

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Wolf Creek Generating Station

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February 2006