

August 14, 2007
EN-07-049

OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT
NOTIFICATION OF SIGNIFICANT ENFORCEMENT ACTION

Licensee: Nebraska Public Power District
Cooper Nuclear Station
Docket No. 50-298

EA-07-090

Subject: ISSUANCE OF FINAL SIGNIFICANCE DETERMINATION AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

This is to inform the Commission that a Notice of Violation associated with a White Significance Determination Process (SDP) finding will be issued on or around August 17, 2007, to Nebraska Public Power District as a result of inspections at the Cooper Nuclear Station. This White finding, an issue with low to moderate importance to safety, which may require additional NRC inspections, involves the failure to promptly identify that a defective Emergency Diesel Generator (EDG) voltage regulator circuit board was installed in EDG 2 on November 8, 2006.

A Notice of Violation is included based on a violation of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix B, Criterion XVI, "Corrective Action," that resulted in the reduced reliability of EDG 2. Two distinct and reasonable opportunities for the licensee to identify the condition adverse to quality existed yet the condition was not identified. Specifically, inadequate procedural guidance for evaluating the suitability of parts used in safety related applications presented one missed opportunity to identify that an EDG voltage regulator circuit board was defective prior to its installation on November 8, 2006. Following installation of the defective EDG 2 voltage regulator circuit board, two high voltage conditions, one resulting in an EDG automatic high voltage trip, occurred on November 13, 2006. The licensee's evaluation of these high voltage events missed another opportunity to identify and correct the deficient condition. The failure to identify and correct this deficiency resulted in an additional high voltage trip of EDG 2 that occurred on January 18, 2007. In summary, contrary to the requirements under Criterion XVI, the licensee failed to (1) promptly identify that the voltage regulator circuit board was defective, (2) determine the cause of the significant condition adverse to quality, and (3) take corrective action to preclude repetition.

In accordance with the NRC Enforcement Policy, the Notice of Violation is considered an escalated enforcement action because it is associated with a White finding.

It should be noted that the licensee has not been specifically informed of the regulatory action.

The schedule of issuance and notification is:

Mailing of Final Significance Determination
Telephone Notification of Licensee

August 17, 2007
August 17, 2007

The State of Nebraska will be notified.

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