



LINCOLN ELECTRIC SYSTEM

Walter A. Canney, Administrator

July 18, 1994

Mr. James M. Taylor
Executive Director for Operations
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Mr. William T. Russell, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Mr. L. J. Callan
Regional Administrator
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission - Region IV
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 400
Arlington, TX 76011-8064

Re: Cooper Nuclear Station
Brownville, Nebraska

Dear Messrs. Taylor, Russell and Callan:

Since making personal contact with both of you, the flow of information to Lincoln Electric System regarding the operation and performance of Cooper has improved. Cooper represents 15 percent of the total Lincoln resources and has provided 30 percent of our energy for the past two decades. Active supervision of that contract interest must now be our highest priority. I am committed to do everything within my power to work with Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to cause Cooper to become a good performing plant and ensure continued safe operations.

Remaining apprised of all that develops is a difficult task for a non-operating owner such as Lincoln Electric System (LES). Steps have been taken to enhance our presence at the plant and to increase our awareness of what transpires so that we may accelerate appropriate actions on the part of NPPD. Our meetings with each of you is part of that process.

11th & "O" Streets
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Messrs. Taylor, Russell and Callan
Page 2
July 18, 1994

In addition, we have obtained a competent consultant who is familiar with Nuclear Regulatory Commission requirements for operation of nuclear facilities to assist us in assessing the implication of the plant information we receive and of the impact of both operating and regulatory events affecting Cooper. Arrangements are currently being made for the permanent assignment of an LES employee to the Cooper site whose principal task will be to monitor activities that occur at the station. We expect that he will have the requisite access clearance and will be on-site on a daily basis not later than August 15, 1994.

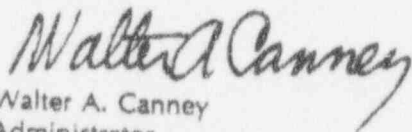
I have had several meetings with Ron Watkins and other top level management officials at NPPD. In addition, we have participated jointly with NPPD officials in conferences at the NRC. We intend to continue to participate in all such meetings.

LES has historically relied upon NPPD to supply us with copies of notices and correspondence pertinent to our interest at Cooper. It is now necessary for LES to obtain more immediate and direct access to assure timely and complete information regarding Cooper performance. Therefore, I request that Lincoln Electric System be placed on the NRC service list for all correspondence, notices, memoranda, orders, or any other documents pertinent to Cooper Nuclear Station. LES desires to be sent copies of all such documents contemporaneously with NRC dispatch to NPPD.

Any such information that is addressed directly to Mr. Ron Watkins, the President of the Nebraska Public Power District, should be copied directly to me. All other materials should be sent directly to Mr. Ron Stoddard, the Lincoln Electric System on-site representative. Mr. Stoddard is being reassigned from his current position of Chief Engineer, Generation Engineering & Special Projects and will be essentially a full-time representative at the plant. Mail will reach both me and Mr. Stoddard at Lincoln Electric System, 11th & O Streets, Lincoln, NE 68508.

If there are any other processes which LES must pursue in order to obtain a complete picture of all the available NRC information concerning Cooper, please let me know. It is our intention to closely monitor all activities at or affecting Cooper, whether those events be operating, management, or regulatory. LES is confident that increased involvement on our part can help ensure the continued safe operation of Cooper. Your cooperation in that effort is appreciated.

Sincerely,


Walter A. Canney
Administrator

WAC/mt

cc: Mr. Ron Watkins, NPPD
Mr. Russell E. Christiansen, MPSI