



Omaha Public Power District
444 South 16th Street Mall
Omaha NE 68102-2247

May 8, 1996
LIC-96-0065

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Mail Station P1-137
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

- References:
1. Docket No. 50-285
 2. NUREG-0612, *Control of Heavy Loads at Power Plants*, Resolution of Generic Technical Activity A-36, issued July 1980
 3. Generic Letter 85-11, *Completion of Phase II of Control of Heavy Loads at Nuclear Power Plants*, NUREG-0612, dated June 28, 1995
 4. Letter from NRC (D. M. Crutchfield) dated April 11, 1996 (NRC Bulletin 96-02)

Subject: **Response to NRC Bulletin 96-02, *Movement of Heavy Loads Over Spent Fuel, Over Fuel in the Reactor Core or Over Safety-Related Equipment***

As requested in Reference 4, the Omaha Public Power District (OPPD) reviewed the plans and capabilities for handling heavy loads at the Fort Calhoun Station (FCS). This review involved determination whether the FCS heavy loads program is in accordance with existing regulatory guidelines (References 2 and 3) and within the licensing basis as previously analyzed in the Updated Safety Analysis Report (USAR). This review focused on heavy load movements while the plant is operating (in all modes other than cold shutdown, refueling and defueled). OPPD recognizes that the NRC staff is considering further generic action on the issue of handling heavy loads while the plant is operating and during shutdown.

Attached please find OPPD's responses to the items denoted in Reference 4.

As required in Reference 4, OPPD's response is being submitted under oath via the attached affidavit.

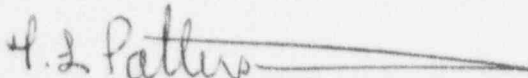
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If you should have any questions regarding OPPD's response to NRC Bulletin 96-02,
please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "T. L. Patterson", followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

T. L. Patterson
Division Manager
Nuclear Operations

TLP/d11

c: Winston & Strawn
L. J. Callan, NRC Regional Administrator, Region IV
R. L. Wharton, NRC Project Manager
W. C. Walker, NRC Senior Resident Inspector

Julie B. Kuhr
Notary Public

OMAHA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT
Fort Calhoun Station (FCS) Unit No. 1

Response to NRC Bulletin 96-02

The Omaha Public Power District (OPPD) reviewed the plans and capabilities for handling heavy loads in accordance with existing regulatory guidelines and within the FCS licensing basis as previously analyzed in the Updated Safety Analysis Report (USAR) as requested in NRC Bulletin 96-02. OPPD provides the following responses to NRC Bulletin 96-02 regarding movement of heavy loads over spent fuel, over fuel in the reactor core, or over safety-related equipment at FCS.

Bulletin 96-02 Item (1):

For licensees planning to implement activities involving the handling of heavy loads over spent fuel, fuel in the reactor core, or safety-related equipment within the next two years from the date of this bulletin, provide the following:

A report, within thirty days of the date of this bulletin, that addresses the licensee's review of its plans and capabilities to handle heavy loads while the reactor is at power (in all modes other than cold shutdown, refueling, and defueled) in accordance with existing regulatory guidelines. The report should also indicate whether the activities are within the licensing basis and should include, if necessary, a schedule for submission of a license amendment request. Additionally, the report should indicate whether changes to Technical Specifications will be required.

OPPD's Response:

OPPD has performed a review of its plans and capabilities to handle heavy loads while the reactor is at power in accordance with existing regulatory guidelines. OPPD has no special plans involving the movement of heavy loads over spent fuel, fuel in the reactor core, or safety-related equipment while the reactor is at power within the next two years. OPPD's present plans and capabilities are considered to be within the licensing basis. No changes to Technical Specifications are required.

Bulletin 96-02 Item (2):

For licensees planning to perform activities involving the handling of heavy loads over spent fuel, fuel in the reactor core, or safety-related equipment while the reactor is at power (in all modes other than cold shutdown, refueling, and defueled) and that involve a potential load drop accident that has not previously been evaluated in the FSAR, submit a license amendment request in advance (6-9 months) of the planned movement of the loads so as to afford the staff sufficient time to perform an appropriate review.

OPPD's Response:

OPPD has no plans, while the reactor is at power, that involve a potential load drop accident that has not been previously evaluated in the USAR. OPPD does plan to remove and re-install a reactor coolant pump motor during the Fall 1996 Refueling Outage. This activity will not be performed at power but rather during refueling shutdown. The heavy load movement will be done in accordance with OPPD's commitments to NUREG-0612.

Bulletin 96-02, Item (3):

For licensees planning to move dry storage casks over spent fuel, fuel in the reactor core, or safety-related equipment while the reactor is at power (in all modes other than cold shutdown, refueling, and de-fueled) include in Item 2 above, a statement of the capability of performing the actions necessary for safe shutdown in the presence of radiological source term that may result from a breach of the dry storage cask, damage to the fuel, and damage to safety-related equipment as a result of a load drop inside the facility.

OPPD's Response:

OPPD has no plans to move dry storage casks over spent fuel, fuel in the reactor core or safety-related equipment within the next two years.

Bulletin 96-02, Item (4):

For licensees planning to perform activities involving the handling of heavy loads over spent fuel, fuel in the reactor core, or safety-related equipment while the reactor is at power (in all modes other than cold shutdown, refueling, and defueled), determine whether changes to Technical Specifications will be required in order to allow the handling of heavy loads (e.g., the dry storage canister shield plug) over fuel assemblies in the spent fuel pool and submit the appropriate information in advance (6-9 months) of the planned movement of the loads for NRC review and approval.

OPPD's Response:

OPPD has no plans to perform activities involving the handling of heavy loads over spent fuel, fuel in the reactor core, or safety-related equipment while the reactor is at power. See OPPD's responses to Items (2) and (3).