



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV

611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400  
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-8064

DEC 4 1992

Docket No. STN 50-482  
License No. NPF-42

Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation  
ATTN: Bart D. Withers  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
P.O. Box 411  
Burlington, Kansas 66839

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: INITIAL SYSTEMATIC ASSESSMENT OF LICENSEE PERFORMANCE (SALP) REPORT

This forwards the initial SALP report (50-482/92-99) for the Wolf Creek Generating Station. The SALP Board met on November 17, 1992, to evaluate Wolf Creek Generating Station's performance for the period October 6, 1991, through October 10, 1992. The performance analyses and resulting evaluations are documented in the enclosed initial SALP report.

In accordance with NRC policy, I have reviewed the SALP Board's assessment and concur with their ratings. Good performance in the areas of Plant Operations, Maintenance/Surveillance, and Engineering/Technical Support resulted in a Category 2 rating for those areas of performance. Good performance in the Emergency Preparedness functional area resulted in a Category 2 rating, but this represents a decline from the superior level of performance that was observed during the previous assessment period. Performance in the Radiological Controls functional area was rated as Category 1. The improving trend that was identified in the previous assessment period was sustained, resulting in a superior level of performance. Continued superior performance was noted in the area of Security, which was rated as Category 1.

Overall, licensee performance was good, but continuing problems were again identified with the self-assessment and corrective action programs. An acceptable level of performance was noted in the area of Safety Assessment/Quality Verification which was rated as Category 3, with some improvements noted. The results of some NRC inspections indicated that plant workers have not fully accepted all the recent and planned changes that are intended to enhance self-assessment and corrective action effectiveness. In particular, some workers are still reluctant to initiate performance improvement request documents for known problems. This performance problem was identified during previous assessments and actions to fully resolve it have not been fully effective or timely given its significance. Additional management attention in these areas still appears to be warranted. We do view as a positive action those steps that you have taken to better define and resolve weaknesses associated with the organizational structure, human

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DRS  
The Chairman (MS: 16-G-15)  
Commissioner Rogers (MS: 16-G-15)  
Commissioner Curtiss (MS: 16-G-15)  
Commissioner Remick (MS: 16-G-15)  
Commissioner de Planque (MS: 16-G-15)  
J. M. Taylor, EDO (MS: 17-G-21)  
J. M. Montgomery  
J. T. Gilliland, PAO

Resident Inspector  
DRP (2)  
Section Chief (RIII, DRP/3C)  
SRI, Callaway, RIII  
RSTS Operator  
Lisa Shea, RM/ALF, MS: MNBB 4503  
Section Chief (DRP/TSS)  
Records Center, INPO  
G. F. Sanborn, EO  
Ann Mattila  
RRIs at all sites  
L. J. Callan, D:DRSS  
J. P. Jaudon, DRSS  
B. Murray, DRSS  
C. A. Hackney

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*Wreckley*

SRI	C:DRP/D	NRR/PDIV-2	NRR/AD:DRP	MT, IV, V
GAPick	ATHowell	WReckley	MVirgilio	
12/2/92	12/2/92	12/2/92	12/2/92	
D:DRSS	DD:DRS	D:DRP	DRA	RA
JLCallan	DDChamberlain	ABBeach	JMMontgomery	JLMilhoan
12/2/92	12/3/92	12/2/92	12/4/92	12/4/92

performance, and plant programs. The Performance Enhancement Program is still in the developmental phase and its effectiveness will depend on the quality of the action plans and their implementation.

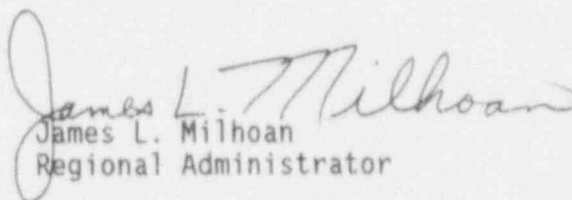
At the end of this assessment period, several apparent violations were identified as the result of an NRC special inspection that was initiated to review the circumstances surrounding a degraded essential service water system flow condition. Although some of these issues are addressed in this report, a final NRC assessment of these apparent violations will be completed during the current assessment period.

On the basis of the SALP Board's assessment, the length of the SALP period will be approximately 16 months. Accordingly, the next SALP period will be from October 11, 1992, to February 26, 1994.

A management meeting will be scheduled with you and your staff to review the results of the initial SALP report. The schedule for this meeting will be established by separate correspondence. Within 20 days of this management meeting, you are required to provide planned corrective actions to achieve improved performance in the Safety Assessment/Quality Verification functional area. You may also provide comments on and amplification of, as appropriate, other aspects of the initial SALP report.

Your written comments, a summary of our meeting, and the results of my consideration of your comments will be issued as an appendix to the enclosed initial SALP report and will constitute the final SALP report.

Sincerely,

  
James L. Milhoan  
Regional Administrator

Enclosure:  
Initial SALP Report  
50-482/92-99

cc w/enclosure:  
Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corp.  
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Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating  
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