April 6, 2010

Mr. Stewart B. Minahan Chief Nuclear Officer, Vice President - Nuclear Cooper Nuclear Station Nebraska Public Power District 72676 648A Ave Brownville, NE 68321

## SUBJECT: SAFETY EVALUATION REPORT WITH OPEN ITEMS RELATED TO THE LICENSE RENEWAL OF COOPER NUCLEAR STATION

Dear Mr. Minahan:

By letter dated September 24, 2008, Nebraska Public Power District submitted, for the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (staff) review an application to renew the Cooper Nuclear Station (CNS) operating license for up to an additional 20 years. The license renewal application (LRA) was submitted pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 54, "Requirements for Renewal of Operating Licenses for Nuclear Power Plants." The staff determined that the LRA was complete and acceptable for docketing on December 19, 2008.

The staff reviewed the CNS LRA and has developed the enclosed "Safety Evaluation Report With Open Items related to the License Renewal of the Cooper Nuclear Station," hereinafter referred to as the Safety Evaluation Report (SER). This SER reflects the status of the staff's review of the LRA, requests for additional information (RAIs), the applicant's responses to the staff's RAIs and other questions related to the LRA through March 29, 2010, unless otherwise noted. Issuance of the enclosed SER is an important milestone for both the applicant and the staff.

The staff has identified open and confirmatory items in its review that must be resolved before it can make a final determination on the application. SER Section 1.5 includes the open items with an explanation of the information required to satisfactorily resolve the issue. In order to resolve the items, the staff has requested additional information, as identified in the SER.

In accordance with the schedule for completing the review of the CNS LRA, the applicant is requested to review the enclosed SER, verify its accuracy, and provide comments to the staff by May 26, 2010. The staff plans to review the current content and format of the SER for further improvement while incorporating the applicant's comments. A revised SER will then be issued by July 29, 2010.

S. Minahan

The staff is committed to completing the review of the CNS SER in a timely manner. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact the License Renewal Project Manager Tam Tran at 301-415-3617 or by e-mail at <u>Tam.Tran@nrc.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

## /RA/

Brian E. Holian, Director Division of License Renewal Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-298

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/encl: See next page

S. Minahan

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Sincerely,

## /RA/

Brian Holian, Director Division of License Renewal Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Enclosure: As stated

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### Letter to S. Minahan from B. Holian dated April 6, 2010

# SUBJECT: SAFETY EVALUATION REPORT WITH OPEN ITEMS RELATED TO THE LICENSE RENEWAL OF COOPER NUCLEAR STATION

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