

February 9, 2000

Mr. Otto L. Maynard
President and Chief Executive Officer
Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation
Post Office Box 411
Burlington, KA 66839

SUBJECT: CLOSEOUT OF GENERIC LETTER 99-02, "LABORATORY TESTING OF
NUCLEAR-GRADE ACTIVATED CHARCOAL," FOR WOLF CREEK
GENERATING STATION (TAC NO. MA5864)

Dear Mr. Maynard:

On June 3, 1999, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued Generic Letter (GL) 99-02, "Laboratory Testing of Nuclear-Grade Activated Charcoal," to all holders of operating licenses for nuclear power reactors, except those who have permanently ceased operations and have certified that fuel has been permanently removed from the reactor vessel.

The purpose of the GL was to:

- (1) Alert addressees that the NRC has determined that testing nuclear-grade activated charcoal to standards other than American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) D3803-1989, "Standard Test Method for Nuclear-Grade Activated Carbon," does not provide assurance for complying with the current licensing basis as it relates to the dose limits of General Design Criterion (GDC) 19 of Appendix A to Part 50 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) and Subpart A of 10 CFR Part 100.
- (2) Request that all addressees determine whether their Technical Specifications (TS) reference ASTM D3803-1989 for charcoal filter laboratory testing. Addressees whose TS do not reference ASTM D3803-1989 should either amend their TS to reference ASTM D3803-1989 or propose an alternative test protocol and provide the information discussed in the requested actions.
- (3) Alert addressees to the staff's intent to exercise enforcement discretion under certain conditions.
- (4) Request that all addressees send the NRC written responses to this generic letter relating to implementation of the requested actions.

In GL 99-02, the NRC staff established four groups of plants. In your response of July 29, 1999, to the GL, you stated that Wolf Creek Generating Station (WCGS) was in compliance with its TS, and the charcoal in the control room filtration, control room pressurization, and auxiliary/ fuel building emergency exhaust systems is tested in accordance with ASTM D3803-1989. This is shown in Section 5.5.11, "Ventilation Filter testing Program

(VFTP)," of the TS and Section 9.4 of the WCGS Updated Final Safety Analysis Report. This letter indicates that your plant is in Group 1 of the GL in that the plant is in compliance with technical specifications that require charcoal testing in accordance with ASTM D3803-1989.

The staff has reviewed your response, and has concluded that all requested information has been provided for WCGS and the information is consistent with the requirements in the TS on testing ventilation system charcoal in accordance with the ASTM standard; therefore, we consider GL 99-02 and TAC No. MA5864 to be closed for WCGS. We thank you for your prompt and complete response.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at 301-415-1307 or through the internet at jnd@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Jack Donohew, Senior Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate IV & Decommissioning
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-482

cc: See next page

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Jack Donohew, Senior Project Manager, Section 2
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Wolf Creek Generating Station

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