

September 17, 2012
EN 12-039

OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT
NOTIFICATION OF SIGNIFICANT ENFORCEMENT ACTION

Licensee: Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation EA-12-152
Burlington, KS 66839
Docket Nos.: 50-482

Subject: ISSUANCE OF FINAL SIGNIFICANCE DETERMINATION AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

This is to inform the Commission that a Notice of Violation will be issued on or about September 21, 2012, to Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation (licensee) for a violation associated with a Yellow Significance Determination Process finding identified during an inspection. This Yellow finding, an issue of substantial safety significance, involves the failure of the licensee to correctly implement maintenance that affected safety-related equipment in accordance with written procedures, between April 16 and 27, 2011.

The Notice of Violation is based on the licensee's failure to meet Technical Specification 5.4.1(a), "Procedures", which requires that written procedures be established, implemented, and maintained covering the applicable procedures recommended in Regulatory Guide 1.33, Revision 2, Appendix A, February 1978. Regulatory Guide 1.33, "Quality Assurance Program Requirements", Appendix A, Section 9.a, specifies, in part, maintenance that can affect the performance of safety-related equipment should be properly pre-planned and performed in accordance with written procedures. Although required by the work order, the licensee failed to install insulating sleeves on two splices associated with startup transformer B phase protective relay circuit, between April 16 and 27, 2011. On January 13, 2012, the startup transformer experienced a trip and lockout during a plant trip because the two uninsulated wires touched and provided a false high phase differential signal to the protective relaying circuit. The protective lockout caused prolonged loss of offsite power to all Train B equipment and all non-safety related buses.

The licensee was provided a choice letter on August 6, 2012; however, in a telephone conversation with Region IV, the licensee accepted the characterization of the risk significance of this finding, and declined the opportunity to discuss this issue in a Regulatory Conference and provide a written response.

It should be noted that the licensee has not been specifically informed of the enforcement action. The schedule of issuance and notification is:

Mailing of Final Significance Determination	September 21, 2012
Telephone Notification of Licensee	September 21, 2012

The State of Kansas will be notified.

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