



# NRC NEWS

## U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Office of Public Affairs Region IV

612 E. Lamar Blvd., Suite 400

Arlington, TX 76011-4125

Telephone: (817) 860-8128

Site: <http://www.nrc.gov>

Blog: <http://public-blog.nrc-gateway.gov>

---

No. IV-11-26

June 13, 2011

Contact: Victor Dricks: (817) 860-8128

E-Mail: [OPA4.Resource@nrc.gov](mailto:OPA4.Resource@nrc.gov)

Lara Uselding: (817) 276-6519

### **NRC CITES COOPER NUCLEAR STATION FOR INSPECTION FINDING OF LOW TO MODERATE SAFETY SIGNIFICANCE**

Cooper Nuclear Station will receive additional oversight from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission because of problems with procedures needed to safely shutdown the plant in the event of some fires. The plant, which is operated by the Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD), is located 23 miles south of Nebraska City, Neb.

NRC inspectors reported that the licensee's procedures to manually operate valves that are part of the high pressure coolant injection system would not prove effective in the event of a fire. The system is an independent emergency cooling system that is one of the means available to provide water to cool the reactor during certain loss of coolant accidents.

"Fire protection programs are a critical component in plant safety and the NRC is paying special attention to ensure the licensee takes actions to fully correct this issue," Region IV Administrator Elmo E. Collins said.

The NRC uses a color-coded system to categorize inspection findings. They range from "green," for an issue of very low safety significance, to "red" for a highly significant safety issue. In this case, the violation has been determined to be "white," indicating the issue is of low to moderate safety significance. The finding is based on an NRC inspection completed on March 14.

NRC held a regulatory conference at its Region IV office in Arlington, Texas, on April 27, and based its final significance determination, in part, on information presented there. The NRC will conduct a supplemental inspection at a future date to evaluate the company's corrective actions.

###

NRC news releases are available through a free list serve subscription at the following Web address: <http://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/listserver.html>. The NRC homepage at [www.nrc.gov](http://www.nrc.gov) also offers a SUBSCRIBE link. E-mail notifications are sent to subscribers when news releases are posted to NRC's Web site.