Ameren's Response to
OPC Data Request
MPSC Case No. ER-2007-0002
AmerenUE's Tariff Filing to Increase Rates for Electric Service
Provided to Customers in the Company's Missouri Service Area

Requested From: Bill Dunkel

Data Request No. OPC 5058

Page 3, line 16 of the Rebuttal of Naslund states that "numerous other alloy 600 welds in the reactor coolant system" would have to be replaced to allow a license extension.

(a) Please explain what problem exists with the "numerous other alloy 600 welds in the reactor coolant system" that indicate it should be replaced.

(b) Is it Mr. Naslund's testimony that the "numerous other alloy 600 welds in the reactor coolant system" that have the problem discussed in part (a) will not have to be replaced if Callaway operates only until 2024?

(c) If the AmerenUE is aware of a significant problem with the "numerous other alloy 600 welds in the reactor coolant system", is AmerenUE planning to correct that problem? If not, why not?

(d) When is AmerenUE planning to replace the "numerous other alloy 600 welds in the reactor coolant system", or otherwise correct the problem? Provide the year, even if the plans are only tentative.

(e) If Callaway is to operate until 2024, is it AmerenUE's plan to operate Callaway during that 17 year period with "numerous other alloy 600 welds in the reactor coolant system" having the problem discussed in part (a)? If "no", explain the answer.

Response:

a) The issue is cracking in Alloy 600 material, this is a industry issue. This has been evidenced by through wall leakage at various stations and at various locations that include leakage on the reactor vessel head, the reactor vessel outlet nozzles, the reactor vessel bottom mounted instrument nozzles, and at pressurizer nozzles and Steam Generator tubing. Only Steam Generator tubing degradation has been seen at Callaway. This cracking has and continues to be of significant study by the Electric Power Research Institute, the Nuclear Energy Institute, and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

b) Inspection and Repair is an acceptable approach to the condition. Location specific business cases are developed for replacement or mitigation efforts. These business cases have assumed a 2024 end of life. An example of this is the Steam Generator replacement.

c & d) We are addressing the situation in general with inspection to detect any flaw needing repair. In some cases replacement or mitigation is being used such as the Steam Generator replacement or the Pressurizer weld overlays being done in Refuel 15. These are based on a business case that shows benefit in the current licensed plant life.

OPC Exhibit No. 4466
Case No(s). ER-2007-0002
Date 3/29/07 Rptr PE

e) Current plans would be to continue operation with installed Alloy 600 welds in the reactor vessel head, and the primary system temperature monitoring detectors based upon regularly scheduled inspections and examinations. The results of those activities and operating experience within the nuclear industry will be evaluated as they are presented and changes made if appropriate. As noted in the response to 5057 there are funds budgeted in 2013 for Reactor Vessel head replacement. No formal business case has been developed for this project yet.

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