

May 1, 2001

Mr. Joel Sorensen
Site Vice President
Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant
Nuclear Management Company, LLC
1717 Wakonade Drive East
Welch, MN 55089

SUBJECT: PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT, UNIT 1 - STEAM
GENERATOR INSERVICE INSPECTION RESULTS (TAC NO. MB1305)

Dear Mr. Sorensen:

As you are aware, we have been following up on the results of your eddy current inspection of the steam generator tubes at Prairie Island, Unit 1. Our primary objective, through our meeting with Nuclear Management Company, LLC, representatives on February 9, 2001, and the follow-up questions we forwarded to you by letter dated February 12, 2001 (ADAMS Accession No. ML010440022), was to contrast the conditions that exist in the apex region of the low row U-bends in the Prairie Island, Unit 1, steam generators with those conditions that existed in the apex region of the low row U-bends in the Indian Point, Unit 2 (IP2), steam generators at the time of the IP2 tube failure on February 15, 2000. We will document the results of our review in a meeting summary for the February 9, 2001, meeting.

During our review of your letter dated February 28, 2001 (ADAMS Accession No. ML010660075), responding to our follow-up questions, we identified an additional question, which was discussed with your staff during a teleconference held on March 27, 2001. The focus of our question relates to your inspection results at the tangent points of the low row U-bends. Many tubes exhibit relatively high noise responses at this location during the eddy current test. We would like to better understand how the acceptance criteria, which are applied to the noise at this location, are sufficient to ensure that any significant flaws are reliably detected. During the March 27, 2001, teleconference, your staff agreed to provide the industry-wide experience concerning the range of crack lengths observed at the tangent point locations, which may be useful in addressing this question.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this request for information, please contact me at (301) 415-1392.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Tae Kim, Senior Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate III
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-282

cc: See next page

May 1, 2001

Mr. Joel Sorensen
Site Vice President
Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant
Nuclear Management Company, LLC
1717 Wakonade Drive East
Welch, MN 55089

SUBJECT: PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT, UNIT 1 - STEAM
GENERATOR INSERVICE INSPECTION RESULTS (TAC NO. MB1305)

Dear Mr. Sorensen:

As you are aware, we have been following up on the results of your eddy current inspection of the steam generator tubes at Prairie Island, Unit 1. Our primary objective, through our meeting with Nuclear Management Company, LLC, representatives on February 9, 2001, and the follow-up questions we forwarded to you by letter dated February 12, 2001 (ADAMS Accession No. ML010440022), was to contrast the conditions that exist in the apex region of the low row U-bends in the Prairie Island, Unit 1, steam generators with those conditions that existed in the apex region of the low row U-bends in the Indian Point, Unit 2 (IP2), steam generators at the time of the IP2 tube failure on February 15, 2000. We will document the results of our review in a meeting summary for the February 9, 2001, meeting.

During our review of your letter dated February 28, 2001 (ADAMS Accession No. ML010660075), responding to our follow-up questions, we identified an additional question, which was discussed with your staff during a teleconference held on March 27, 2001. The focus of our question relates to your inspection results at the tangent points of the low row U-bends. Many tubes exhibit relatively high noise responses at this location during the eddy current test. We would like to better understand how the acceptance criteria, which are applied to the noise at this location, are sufficient to ensure that any significant flaws are reliably detected. During the March 27, 2001, teleconference, your staff agreed to provide the industry-wide experience concerning the range of crack lengths observed at the tangent point locations, which may be useful in addressing this question.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this request for information, please contact me at (301) 415-1392.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Tae Kim, Senior Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate III
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-282

cc: See next page

DISTRIBUTION

PUBLIC	TKim	LLund	RLanksbury, RIII
PDIII-1 Reading	RBouling	EMurphy	
JZwolinski/SBlack	WBateman	NChokshi	
SBajwa	JStrosnider	OGC	
CCraig	ESullivan	ACRS	*Previously Concurred

OFFICE	PDIII-1/PM	PDIII-1/LA	EMCB/SC*	PDIII-1/SC
NAME	TKim	RBouling	ESullivan	CCraig
DATE	5/1/01	5/1/01	4/24/01	5/1/01

ACCESSION NO. ML011210319

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant,
Units 1 and 2

cc:

J. E. Silberg, Esquire
Shaw, Pittman, Potts and Trowbridge
2300 N Street, N. W.
Washington, DC 20037

Site Licensing Manager
Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant
Nuclear Management Company, LLC
1717 Wakonade Drive East
Welch, MN 55089

Adonis A. Neblett
Assistant Attorney General
Office of the Attorney General
455 Minnesota Street
Suite 900
St. Paul, MN 55101-2127

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Resident Inspector's Office
1719 Wakonade Drive East
Welch, MN 55089-9642

Regional Administrator, Region III
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
801 Warrenville Road
Lisle, IL 60532-4351

Mr. Stephen Bloom, Administrator
Goodhue County Courthouse
Box 408
Red Wing, MN 55066-0408

Commissioner
Minnesota Department of Commerce
121 Seventh Place East
Suite 200
St. Paul, MN 55101-2145

Tribal Council
Prairie Island Indian Community
ATTN: Environmental Department
5636 Sturgeon Lake Road
Welch, MN 55089

Michael D. Wadley
Chief Nuclear Officer
Nuclear Management Company, LLC
700 First Street
Hudson, WI 54016

Nuclear Asset Manager
Xcel Energy, Inc.
414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55401

October 2000