

October 31, 2005

Mr. John T. Conway
Site Vice President
Nuclear Management Company, LLC
2807 West County Road 75
Monticello, MN 55362-9637

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR THE REVIEW OF THE
MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT LICENSE RENEWAL
APPLICATION (TAC NO. MC6440)

Dear Mr. Conway:

By letter dated March 16, 2005, Nuclear Management Company, LLC, (NMC or the applicant) submitted an application pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 54 (10 CFR Part 54) to renew the operating license for the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant (MNGP), for review by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The NRC staff is reviewing the information contained in the license renewal application (LRA) and has identified, in the enclosure, areas where additional information is needed to complete the review.

These questions were discussed with your staff, Mr. Patrick Burke, and a mutually agreeable date for this response is within 30 days from the date of this letter. If you have any questions, please contact me at 301-415-3777 or e-mail DXM2@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Daniel J. Merzke, Project Manager
License Renewal Section A
License Renewal and Environmental Impacts Program
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No.: 50-263

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/encl: See next page

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Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant

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Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant

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DISTRIBUTION: Ltr to J. Conway, re: RAI for Monticello LRA, Dated: October 31, 2005

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**MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT (MNGP)
LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION (LRA)
REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (RAI)**

RAI 4.1-1

As stated in the MNGP LRA, the current operational experience with the examination of the high-fluence locations of the top guide grids shows that no evidence of cracking has been detected. Further, MNGP is committed by letter to NRC, dated June 10, 2005, to examinations of 10 percent of these locations within 12 years.

To support NRC staff evaluation of the LRA, please provide the following additional information:

- A. Describe MNGP actions, while performing TLAA-related examinations of the high-fluence locations of the top guide grid, upon detecting indications.
- B. Describe MNGP TLAA-related actions regarding the top guide grid, when the examination of 10 percent of top guide locations in the 12-year period has been completed, during the remainder of the period of extended operation.

RAI B2.1.5-1

In the Enhancement Section of B2.1.5, MNGP states that the Buried Piping and Tanks Inspection Program will be revised to specify a 10-year Diesel Fuel Oil Storage Tank, T-44, internal inspection frequency. Please clarify whether the Diesel Fuel Oil Storage Tank internal inspection is in addition to, or in lieu of, the external inspection recommended in the GALL Report.

RAI 3.3.2.3.5-1

In lieu of crediting the MNGP Aging Management Program (AMP) for selective leaching of materials in Section 3.3 of the LRA, MNGP has credited the Fire Protection Program (MNGP AMP B2.1.17/GALL AMP XI.M26), the Fire Water System Program (MNGP AMP B2.1.18/GALL AMP XI.27) or the Buried Piping and Tanks Inspection Program (MNGP AMP B2.1.5/GALL AMP XI.M34) to manage the effects of loss of material due to selective leaching for certain Fire System components (copper alloy and gray cast iron materials in a raw water environment or buried in ground environments) in Table 3.3.2-9. For other systems in a raw water environment in Section 3.3, MNGP has credited its Selective Leaching of Materials Program to manage the aging effects of loss of material due to selective leaching.

To support NRC staff evaluation of the LRA, please provide the following additional information:

- C. Describe details of the Fire Protection Program, the Fire Water System Program, and the Buried Piping and Tanks Inspection Program that demonstrate that these programs adequately manage the effect of loss of material due to selective leaching. As currently written in LRA Appendix B, it appears that these programs will not manage this aging effect/aging mechanism combination.

Enclosure

- D. Describe inspections or examinations, if any, of the components that are (will be) performed by the Fire Protection Program, the Fire Water System Program, and the Buried Piping and Tanks Inspection Program to detect selective leaching.
- E. If MNGP is planning on a future enhancement of these programs, please provide a commitment for this future enhancement.