

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION III 2443 WARRENVILLE ROAD, SUITE 210 LISLE, IL 60532-4352

July 20, 2010

EA-10-031

Mr. Mark A. Schimmel Site Vice President Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant Northern States Power Company, Minnesota 1717 Wakonade Drive East Welch, MN 55089

SUBJECT: ERRATA FOR PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT, UNITS 1

AND 2, FINAL SIGNIFICANCE DETERMINATION OF PRELIMINARY WHITE

FINDING NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 05000282/2010504(DRS);

05000306/2010504(DRS)

Dear Mr. Schimmel:

On July 7, 2010, the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued Final Significance Determination and Inspection Report 05000282/2010504(DRS); 05000306/2010504(DRS) (ML101880701). The inspection report number was inadvertently identified as 05000306/2010503(DRS) on the cover letter subject line. The correct report number is 05000306/2010504(DRS). Please insert the attached cover letter where appropriate into Inspection Report 05000282/2010504(DRS); 05000306/2010504(DRS).

We apologize for any inconvenience to you and your staff.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Hironori Peterson, Chief Operations Branch Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-282; 50-306 License Nos. DPR-42; DPR-60

Enclosure: Cover letter of Inspection Report 05000282/2010504(DRS);

05000306/2010504(DRS)

cc w/encl: Distribution via ListServ

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Letter to Mark A. Schimmel from Hironori Peterson, dated July 20, 2010.

SUBJECT: ERRATA FOR PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT, UNITS 1

AND 2, FINAL SIGNIFICANCE DETERMINATION OF PRELIMINARY WHITE

FINDING NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 05000282/2010504(DRS);

05000306/2010504(DRS)

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REGION III 2443 WARRENVILLE ROAD, SUITE 210 LISLE, IL 60532-4352

July 7, 2010

EA-10-031

Mr. Mark A. Schimmel Site Vice President Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant Northern States Power Company, Minnesota 1717 Wakonade Drive East Welch, MN 55089

SUBJECT: PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2

FINAL SIGNIFICANCE DETERMINATION OF PRELIMINARY WHITE FINDING

NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 05000282/2010504(DRS);

05000306/2010504(DRS)

Dear Mr. Schimmel:

This letter provides you the final significance determination of the preliminary White finding discussed in NRC Inspection Report No. 05000282/2010503(DRS) dated April 9, 2010. The finding involved the failure to follow and maintain in effect emergency plans which use a standard emergency classification and action level scheme. Specifically, two Alert emergency action levels (EALs), EALs RA1.1 and RA1.2, specified instrument threshold values that were beyond the indicated ranges of effluent radiation monitors R-18, R-25, and R-31.

On May 11, 2010, a Regulatory Conference was held at your request to discuss your views on this issue. During the conference, you described your assessment of the significance of the finding, the root cause, the missed opportunities to identify the issue earlier, and your corrective actions. You agreed with the performance deficiency and provided a timeline of the sequence of events. You provided new information that EAL RA2.1, for declaring Alert emergencies for a valid alarm with respect to a spent fuel pool accident, also used radiation monitors R-25 and R-31. Therefore, operators could use EAL RA2.1, in lieu of EAL RA1.2 to declare an Alert based on an alarm from monitors R-25 and R-31. The Alert threshold for EAL RA2.1 was well within range of monitors R-25 and R-31.

After considering the information developed during the inspection and the information you provided at the conference, the NRC has concluded that the finding is appropriately characterized as Green, a finding with very low safety significance, in that your EAL classification process would not declare an Alert for a single emergency action level, EAL RA1.1. The finding also involved a violation of NRC requirements. Specifically, 10 CFR 50.54(q) requires, in part, a licensee shall follow and maintain in effect emergency plans which meet the standards in 10 CFR 50.47(b). Title 10 CFR 50.47(b)(4), requires, in part, that an emergency plan must have a standard emergency classification and action level scheme, the bases of which include facility system and effluent parameters, is in use by the nuclear facility licensee and State and local response plans call for reliance on information