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(TEMPORARY FORM)

CONTROL NO: 6408

FILE: _____

FROM: Northern States Power Company Minneapolis, Minn. 55362 L. O. Moyer			DATE OF DOC 8-17-73	DATE REC'D 8-22-73	LTR X	MEMO	RPT	OTHER
TO: John F. O'Leary			ORIG 1 signed	CC 39	OTHER	SENT AEC PDR X SENT LOCAL PDR X		
CLASS	UNCLASS XX	PROP INFO	INPUT	NO CYS REC'D 40		DOCKET NO: 50-263		

DESCRIPTION:
Ltr reporting an abnormal occurrence on 8-10-73, regarding laspe of off-gas stack monitoring due to switch in purge position.....

ENCLOSURES:

ACKNOWLEDGED

DO NOT REMOVE

PLANT NAME: Monticello Plant

FOR ACTION/INFORMATION 8-23-73 GC

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✓ CASE	✓ KNIGHT	BALLARD	GOULBOURNE (L)	<u>PLANS</u>
GIAMBUSSO	✓ PAWLICKI	SPANGLER	LEE (L)	MCDONALD
BOYD	✓ SHAO		MAIGRET (L)	DUBE
MOORE (L) (BWR)	✓ STELLO	<u>ENVIRO</u>	SERVICE (L)	
DEYOUNG (L) (PWR)	✓ HOUSTON	MULLER	SHEPPARD (E)	<u>INFO</u>
✓ SKOVHOLT (L)	✓ NOVAK	DICKER	SMITH (L)	C. MILES
P. COLLINS	✓ ROSS	KNIGHTON	TEETS (L)	✓ B. King (Ro)
	✓ IPPOLITO	YOUNGBLOOD	WADE (E)	
✓ REG OPR	✓ TEDESCO	REGAN	WILLIAMS (E)	
FILE & REGION (3)	✓ LONG	PROJECT LDR	WILSON (L)	
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	✓ VOLLMER			

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1 - ASLB (YORE/SAYRE/	1-CONSULTANT'S	1-AGMED (WALTER KOESTER
WOODARD/"H" ST.	NEWMARK/BLUME/AGBABIAN	RM-C-427-GT
✓ 16 - CYS ACRS HOLDING SENT TO LIC. ASST.	1-GERALD ULRIKSON...ORNL	1-RD..MULLER..F-309 GT
8-23-73 DIGGS		

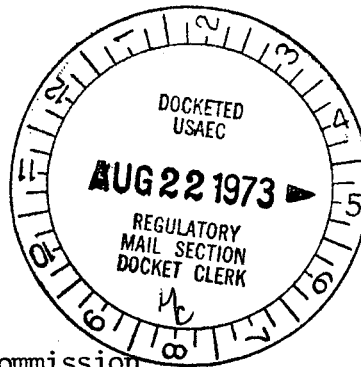
NSP

NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55362

August 17, 1973

Mr. J. F. O'Leary, Director
Directorate of Licensing
United States Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D. C. 20545



Dear Mr. O'Leary:

MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT
Docket No. 50-263 License No. DPR-22

Lapse of Off-Gas Stack Monitoring Due to Switch in Purge Position

A condition occurred at the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant which we are reporting to your office in accordance with Section 6.7.B.1, Abnormal Occurrence Reports, of the Technical Specifications, of Provisional Operating License DPR-22.

On August 10, 1973, during startup of the plant, it was discovered that the stack gaseous effluent monitor had been in the purge mode and therefore had not been monitoring the radioactive gas release rate from the stack as required by Technical Specification 3.8.A.

The plant had been in hot standby since August 8th, with the reactor isolated. At about 0000 hours on August 10th, the reactor was unisolated and plant start-up was continued. At about 0830, August 10th, with reactor power at 30%, it was observed that the stack monitor reading was lower than expected for that power level. Immediate investigation revealed that the local switch on the sampling system was in the purge mode. It was immediately restored to the operating mode. Further investigation indicated that the local purge switch had been left in the purge position following system maintenance on August 7th while the plant was shutdown.

The local purge switch being in the purge position caused the stack monitor to measure radioactivity in the stack room atmosphere instead of the activity in the stack effluent. There is no indication in the main control room that the local switch is in the purge position. Therefore when the plant was started up, the operators were unaware that the stack monitor was not operable.

There are no automatic functions associated with the stack gas monitoring system. Before the stack release rate would have reached a point when public safety would have been endangered, the air-ejector off-gas monitor would have isolated the off-gas line to the stack.

August 17, 1973

The following corrective action will be taken:

The local purge switch will be removed. This will allow only control room personnel to put the stack gas monitor in the purge mode. When the stack gas monitor is placed in the purge mode from the control room it is indicated by a red light next to the purge switch.

Yours very truly,

L. O. Mayer 7/17/73

L. O. Mayer, PE
Director of Nuclear Support Services

LOM/kik

cc: B H Grier
G Charnoff
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Attn: Ken Dzigan