

Docket No: 50-263

Northern States Power Company  
ATTN: Mr. L. O. Mayer  
Director of Nuclear Support  
Services  
414 Nicollet Mall  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

Gentlemen:

RE: MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT

The in-place testing of Target Rock safety/relief valves after maintenance and reinstallation at operating plants or as part of regular surveillance programs is an important check of these valves' operability. Detailed recommendations and procedures for such in-place testing are currently being developed for issuance as a Regulatory Guide. Prior to completion of this effort, we recommend that any in-place testing of Target Rock safety/relief valves following maintenance and reinstallation and periodic surveillance testing as required by NRC regulations or your Technical Specifications be conducted at a pressure of approximately 150 psig. Moreover, we recommend that prior to reinstallation after valve maintenance, appropriate bench tests of set point pressure and pilot and second stage leak checks be performed. These recommendations are intended only as a clarification of existing technical specifications and regulations which pertain to the testing and inspection of safety/relief valves.

If you should have any questions concerning this interim guidance, please feel free to contact me (301/492-7380).

Sincerely,

Original signed by  
Dennis L. Ziemann  
Dennis L. Ziemann, Chief  
Operating Reactors Branch #2  
Division of Reactor Licensing

cc: See next page

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