

FROM: Northern States Power Company Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401 E.O. Duncanson, Jr.		DATE OF DOCUMENT: April 29, 1971		DATE RECEIVED: May 3, 1971		NO.: 2118	
		LTR. X		MEMO:		RT: OTHER:	
TO: Dr. Peter A. Morris		ORIG.: 3 signed		CC:		OTHER:	
		ACTION NECESSARY <input type="checkbox"/>		CONCURRENCE <input type="checkbox"/>		DATE ANSWERED:	
		NO ACTION NECESSARY <input type="checkbox"/>		COMMENT <input type="checkbox"/>		BY:	
CLASSIF: U		POST OFFICE		FILE CODE: 50-263			
REG. NO:							
DESCRIPTION: (Must Be Unclassified)		REFERRED TO		DATE		RECEIVED BY	
Ltr reporting an occurrence on 4-20-71 when the two air ejector off-gas monitors have been inoperable during the startup testing programs to the		Knuth w/9 cys for ACTION		5-3-71			
ENCLOSURES: 25% level....returned to service 4-26-71....w/attachment entitled Air Ejector Off-Gas Monitoring System...		DISTRIBUTION:					
		Reg File Cy AEC PDR					
		OGC-Ba-P-506-A Compliance (2)					
		H. Price & Staff D. Thompson					
		Morris/Schroeder Skovholt				DO NOT REMOVE	
REMARKS:		Boyd E.G. Case				ACKNOWLEDGED	
		DTIE(Laughlin) NSIC(Buchanan)				2118	

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U.S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

MAIL CONTROL FORM FORM AEC-3265 (8-60)

NSP

Regulatory

File Cy.

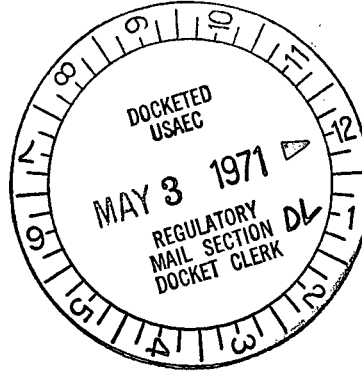
NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

April 29, 1971

Dr. Peter A. Morris, Director
Division of Reactor Licensing
United States Atomic Energy Commission
Washington D.C. 20545

Dear Dr. Morris:



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

Inoperability of the Air Ejector
Off-Gas System Radiation Monitors

On April 20, 1971, it was determined that the two air ejector off-gas monitors have been inoperable during the startup testing program to the 25% power level. We are reporting this occurrence in accordance with Section 6.6.B.3 of Appendix A, Technical Specifications, of the Provisional Operating License DPR-22.

Summary Description of Occurrence

During the startup testing program, while initially escalating to each power level, daily grab samples of the air ejector off-gas are analyzed. During the initial rise to 15% power, the air ejector activity discharge was approximately 25 uci/sec with a corresponding stack release rate of approximately 15 uci/sec. These activity rates existed at the time of the 3-10-71 shutdown from 15% power. Following an extended shutdown, the plant was restarted and reached 13% power on 4-19-71 with an air ejector activity discharge of approximately 120 uci/sec with a stack release rate of approximately 45 uci/sec. On 4-20-71 during the initial rise to 25% power, the analysis of an off-gas grab sample showed the air ejector activity discharge to be approximately 300 uci/sec. With this analyzed activity, it was expected that the air ejector off-gas monitors should be indicating noticeably above the indication provided by the bug sources. While investigating this concern, it was discovered that the monitor indications increased from 2.8 mr/hr to approximately 9 mr/hr when the Off-Gas Sample Chamber Purge controls were turned to the ON position. It was then recognized that the system was operating normally with the controls indicating a purge condition. The system was operated in this manner until the plant was shutdown.

Further investigation of the problem revealed that the air ejector sample chamber purge valve was hooked up improperly. The valve is a three way valve which should allow purging of the sample chamber when the valve solenoid is energized and provide normal sampling when the valve is de-energized. The valve was found piped up the opposite way and apparently

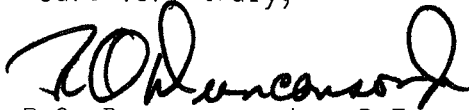
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had been in this condition since initial installation. Following a plant shutdown on April 25th, the system was piped up properly and during a plant restart on April 26th, proper operation of the system was verified.

The Region III Compliance Office has been previously notified of the occurrence in accordance with Section 6.6.A.3 of the Technical Specifications.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R.O. Duncanson, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

R.O. Duncanson, Jr., P.E.
Gen. Supt. of Power Plants-Mechanical
Chairman-Monticello Safety Audit Committee

ROD/CEL/caf

OFF GAS
FROM
AIR EJECTOR

TO STACK
VIA
30 MINUTE
HOLDUP LINE

HS
OFF GAS
SAMPLE CHAMBER
PURGE (SWITCH)

RADIATION
DETECTORS

SAMPLE CHAMBER

RETURN TO
MAIN
CONDENSER

PURGE
AIR

FILTER

Received w/ Ltr Dated 4-29-71

AIR EJECTOR OFF GAS MONITORING SYSTEM