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April 29, 1971

Docket No. 50-263

Northern States Power Company
ATTN: Mr. Arthur V. Dienhart
Vice President
414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

Gentlemen:

Your TWX dated April 28, 1971, informed us that the HPCI system became inoperable on April 22, 1971, and stated that you would operate the plant with the HPCI system inoperable until Wednesday, May 5, 1971, in accordance with Section 3.5.H of the Technical Specifications.

Section 3.5.H is incorporated in the Technical Specifications in order to continue to provide power under certain critical conditions. Since the Monticello plant is undergoing startup tests we do not believe the provisions of this section should apply at this time. We consider the availability of safety systems of a plant to be more essential during plant checkout, when all systems have not been completely tested, and the possibility of malfunctions occurrence is higher than during routine operation.

Accordingly, we conclude that it is not in the interest of public health and safety to invoke Section 3.5.H of the Technical Specifications and therefore conclude that the provisions of Section 3.5.D4 should apply.

In the near future, the Monticello Technical Specifications will be revised to make them more consistent with other facilities on areas relating to allowable equipment repair periods.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by
Peter A. Morris

Peter A. Morris, Director
Division of Reactor Licensing

OFFICE ▶	DRL:BWR-1	DRL:BWR-1	DRL:AD:BWR	DRL	DRL	
SURNAME ▶	BEnaroya:kl x7791 MB	DFKnuth	RSBoyd	FSchroeder	PAMorris	
DATE ▶	4/29/71	4/25/71	/ /71	/ /71	4/29/71	

DL