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 FACIL: 50-263 MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT, NORTHERN STATES 05000263
 AUTH. NAME AUTHOR AFFILIATION
 ELIASON, L.R. NORTHERN STATES POWER CO.
 RECIP. NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
 KEPPLER, J.G. REGION 3, CHICAGO, OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: ON 790317, NUMBER 11 RECIRCULATION MOTOR GENERATOR FIELD
 BREAKER FAILED TO TRIP, CAUSED BY BEAD OF METAL FOUND FUSED
 TO ARC CHUTE NEAR PRIMARY CONTACTS. METAL BEAD REMOVED,
 CONTACTS CLEANED & ARC CHUTES REINSTALLED.

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N O R T H E R N S T A T E S P O W E R C O M P A N Y

Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant
Monticello, Minnesota 55362

March 19, 1979

Mr. J. G. Keppler, Director
Region III
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
799 Roosevelt Road
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

Dear Mr. Keppler:

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

On March 17, 1979, during cold shutdown conditions, #11 Recirculation MG was shutdown, however, its associated generator field breaker failed to trip. Because such a failure to trip could prevent, by itself, complete fulfillment of the functional requirements of the ATWS System, this occurrence is reportable under Technical Specification 6.7.B.1.e. The field breaker is a General Electric type AKF-2-25, 250 VDC, 600A frame, 2 pole device. During removal of the arc chutes to allow investigation of the problem, the breaker tripped. A bead of metal was found fused to one of the arc chutes near the primary contacts and was removed. The contacts were cleaned and the arc chutes were reinstalled. The breaker was tested by manual and electrical actuation both inside and outside of its cubicle several times. It performed properly each time and was placed back in service.

Yours very truly,

L. R. Eliason
Plant Manager

LRE/kik

cc: Director, Office of Management
Information & Program Control
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Copy sent by telecopier to Keppler

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