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 FACIL: 50-263 Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant, Northern States 05000263
 AUTH. NAME AUTHOR AFFILIATION
 MAYER, L.O. Northern States Power Co.
 RECIP. NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
 Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: Ack receipt of NRC 790927 & 791022 ltrs re purge & vent valves. Administrative controls placed on valves, Fisher Controls will test valves to demonstrate valves capable of closing during LOCA & GE will perform analyses on valves.

DISTRIBUTION CODE: A034S COPIES RECEIVED: LTR 1 ENCL 1 SIZE: 3
 TITLE: Containment Purging

NOTES: _____

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NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55401

November 14, 1979

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U S Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

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

Demonstration of Containment
Purge Valve Operability

In a letter dated September 27, 1979 from Mr Darrell Eisenhut, Acting Director, Division of Operating Reactors, USNRC, we were provided with a document entitled, "Guidelines for Demonstration of Operability of Purge and Vent Valves." We were requested to initiate action on an expedited basis to ensure that containment vent and purge valves at Monticello meet these guidelines.

In a letter dated October 22, 1979 from Mr Thomas Ippolito, Chief, Operating Reactors Branch #3, Division of Operating Reactors, USNRC, we were provided with a document entitled, "Interim Position for Containment Purge and Vent Valve Operation Pending Resolution of Isolation Valve Operability." We were requested to commit to operate in conformance with the interim position and provide information which demonstrates that we have initiated the purge and vent valve operability verification on an expedited basis. Our response was to be submitted in accordance with 10 CFR 50.54(f).

The following action has been taken to resolve the containment purge and vent valve operability questions discussed in these two letters:

- a. As noted in our Licensee Event Report dated March 15, 1979 (79-003) and our letter dated June 7, 1979, we have placed administrative controls on our containment purge and vent valves. The 18-inch purge and vent path is not used for containment venting or purging when the reactor is above cold shutdown. All purging and venting above cold shutdown is via a 2-inch bypass flow path.
- b. We have ordered new high-torque actuators with 45-degree limit stops for the containment purge and vent valves from the valve manufacturer. These new operators will be installed during the February, 1980 outage if they arrive in time.
- c. We have requested the valve manufacturer, Fisher Controls, to provide the results of tests or analyses which demonstrate that the modified purge and vent valves are capable of closing in the event a loss of coolant accident occurs while the containment is being purged.

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NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Page 2

November 14, 1979

- d. We have requested the General Electric Company to perform an analysis to determine the effects on ECCS system performance in the event a loss of coolant accident occurs while the containment is being purged.

In conformance with the NRC Staff's "Interim Position for Containment Purge and Vent Valve Operation Pending Resolution of Isolation Valve Operability", we will continue to limit containment purging and venting above cold shut-down to the two-inch bypass flow path. When items (b), (c), and (d) above have been satisfactorily completed, we will resume purge and vent operations during normal plant operation, limiting all purging and venting times to as low as achievable in accordance with the NRC Staff's interim position. We will work with the valve manufacturer to assure that tests and analyses demonstrating adequacy of the modified valves will meet with NRC approval. This may require discussions with the Staff and valve manufacturer to resolve potential difficulties with the Staff's guidelines for demonstration of valve operability.

Please contact us if you have any questions related to the information we have provided.



L O Mayer, PE
Manager of Nuclear Support Services

LOM/DMM/ak

cc: J G Keppler
G Charnoff

Attachment

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY

MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT

Docket No. 50-263

License No. DPR-22

LETTER DATED NOVEMBER 14, 1979
RESPONDING TO NRC REQUEST
FOR INFORMATION ON THE DEMONSTRATION OF
CONTAINMENT PURGE VALVE OPERABILITY

Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation, by this letter dated November 14, 1979 hereby submits a response to the NRC request dated October 22, 1979 for information on the demonstration of containment purge valve operability.

This response contains no restricted or other defense information.

NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY

By L. J. Wachter
L J Wachter
Vice President, Power Production
& System Operation

On this 14th day of November, 1979, before me a notary public in and for said County, personally appeared L J Wachter, Vice President, Power Production and System Operation, and being first duly sworn acknowledged that he is authorized to execute this document on behalf of Northern States Power Company, that he knows the contents thereof and that to the best of his knowledge, information and belief, the statements made in it are true and that it is not interposed for delay.

Jeanne M. Hacker
Jeanne M Hacker
Notary Public - Minnesota

Hennepin County

My Commission Expires May 6, 1986

