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 Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: Submits results of drywell safe shutdown analysis required
 by NRC 790829 fire protection safety evaluation.No addl fire
 protection provisions needed.During normal operation,drywell
 inerted w/nitrogen, reducing oxygen & combustion possibility.

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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

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

March 31, 1980

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

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

Drywell Safe Shutdown Analysis Required
by Fire Protection Safety Evaluation

Sections 3.2.8 and 5.12.6 of the Monticello Fire Protection Safety Evaluation Report issued by the NRC Staff on August 29, 1979 contain our commitment to re-evaluate the drywell area relative to safe shutdown requirements of equipment and cables in this area. An additional requirement was verification of the fact that the fire protection system provides adequate protection of the drywell area such that a fire in this area would not prevent safe hot or cold shutdown. The purpose of this letter is to provide the staff with the results of these evaluations.

The major source of combustible material within the drywell is the lubricating oil in the two reactor recirculation pump motors. The bearings are both lubricated and completely immersed in the two oil reservoirs. The upper reservoir has a capacity of 53.75 gallons and the lower has a capacity of 3.75 gallons. Each reservoir is provided with a high-low oil level switch, fill and drain connections, water cooling coils, a sightglass level gage and an oil retainer surrounding the shaft and extending two inches above the oil level. Thermocouples are imbedded in the babbitt of the journal and thrust bearings to monitor the temperatures with an alarm setpoint of 200°F. No pressurized lubrication is used.

In addition to the lubricating oil, a minimal amount of cable is routed in 12 inch wide ladder cable trays with A.C. and D.C. power and control cables. The instrumentation cable trays are covered pan type. Trays containing redundant channels are on opposite sides of the drywell at its widest point.

During normal operation, the drywell is inerted with nitrogen reducing the oxygen content to a level that will not support combustion. The construction

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of the oil containing portions of the recirculation pump motors and the instrumentation provided is such that an oil spill or overheating of the bearings do not constitute a fire hazard. The cable tray locations are such that an overheated cable will not affect its redundant counterpart if ignition occurs during the 24 hour periods prior to and following an outage when the drywell is not completely inerted. During periods of maintenance, the drywell is fully accessible for fire brigade operations and sufficient equipment is available for effective manual extinguishment.

The foregoing analysis does not indicate the need for any additional fire protection provisions in the drywell. Please contact us if you require any additional information related to this evaluation.



L. O. Mayer, PE
Manager of Nuclear Support Services

LOM/mmm

cc: J G Keppler
G Charnoff