

OCT 26 1973

cc: Donald E. Nelson, Esquire  
VP and GC  
Northern States Power Company  
414 Nicollet Mall  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

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OCT 26 1973

Docket No. 50-263

Northern States Power Company  
ATTN: Mr. L. O. Mayer, Director of  
Nuclear Support Services  
414 Nicollet Mall  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

Gentlemen:

You have provided analyses of the effect of densification during steady state operations, transients, and postulated accidents in your letter of August 15, 1973, and in the referenced GE topical report "Fuel Densification Effects on General Electric Boiling Water Reactor Fuel", NEDM-10735, Supplements 6, 7, and 8, August 1973. Your analyses indicated that the average planar linear heat generation rate of any fuel assembly must comply with the limit set forth in a curve labeled "γ" in Figures 4-9C1 and 4-9C2 of NEDM-10735, Supplements 6, 7, and 8 to meet the criteria set forth in our densification model.

It is our understanding that the "γ" curves of Figures 4-9C1 and 4-9C2 are based on detailed core heatup calculations up to 15,000 Mwd/T burnup. Beyond this burnup, the "γ" curves were extrapolated based on available information. Please extend the detailed heatup calculations to higher burnups. These calculations and the revised "γ" curves should be submitted for staff review by November 5, 1973.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by  
D. J. Skovholt

Donald J. Skovholt  
Assistant Director for  
Operating Reactors  
Directorate of Licensing

cc: See next page

