



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

REGION III
2443 WARRENVILLE ROAD, SUITE 210
LISLE, IL 60532-4352

July 30, 2012

Mr. Jim Molden
Site Vice President
Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant
Northern States Power Company, Minnesota
1717 Wakonade Drive East
Welch, MN 55089

SUBJECT: ACTION MATRIX SHIFT ON THE REACTOR OVERSIGHT PROCESS
PUBLIC WEB SITE FOR PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT,
UNITS 1 AND 2

Dear Mr. Molden:

Effective July 1, 2012, the security cornerstone was integrated into the Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) performance assessment program governed by Inspection Manual Chapter (IMC) 0305, "Operating Reactor Assessment Program." Thus, security findings and performance indicators (PIs) are now input to one Action Matrix that includes all seven cornerstones of the ROP. The purpose of this letter is to inform you that the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant, Units 1 and 2, will be shown in the Regulatory Response Column of the ROP Action Matrix when the ROP public Web site is updated on August 6, 2012.

On February 16, 2012, inspection report number 05000282/2011408(DRS); 05000306/2011408(DRS), was issued by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant, Units 1 and 2, and characterized the final significance determination of one or more greater-than-Green inspection findings in the security cornerstone. As detailed in inspection report number 05000282/2011405(DRS); 05000306/2011405(DRS), Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant, Units 1 and 2, dated December 7, 2011, Preliminary Significance Determination of a Security-Related Greater-Than-Green Finding, security issues are immediately corrected or compensated for and placed in the licensee's Corrective Action Program, while long-term corrective action is being implemented. Because the NRC already identified these greater-than-Green findings under the provisions of IMC 0320, "Operating Reactor Security Assessment Program," and is in the process of planning, performing, or completing the supplemental inspection commensurate with the safety significance of the findings, these greater-than-Green findings do not represent new performance issues. However, future assessment of any new greater-than-Green security findings or performance indicators could result in actual movement in the Action Matrix.

The ROP Web site will indicate security inputs (findings and PIs) that were determined to be of very low significance, i.e., Green, and use Blue to indicate greater-than-Green (i.e., White, Yellow, or Red) security inputs. Not specifying the actual color of greater-than-green security inputs is consistent with current Commission policy. Similarly, specific information about all security performance deficiencies will remain non-publicly available, consistent with current Commission policy.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records System (PARS) component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Please contact me at 630-829-9700 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

/RA By Kenneth G. O'Brien Acting For/

Steven A. Reynolds, Division Director
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-282; 50-306
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Letter to Mr. Jim Molden from Mr. Steven A. Reynolds dated July 30, 2012.

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UNITS 1 AND 2

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