



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
REGION III  
2443 WARRENVILLE ROAD, SUITE 210  
LISLE, IL 60532-4352

February 25, 2013

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

**SUBJECT: ASSESSMENT FOLLOW-UP LETTER FOR PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR  
GENERATING PLANT, UNIT 2**

Dear Mr. Lynch:

As a result of its quarterly review of plant performance, which was completed on January 31, 2013, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) updated its assessment of Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant, Unit 2. The NRC's evaluation consisted of a review of performance indicators and inspection results. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of your facility. This letter supplements, but does not supersede, the mid-cycle letter issued on September 4, 2012.

The NRC's review of Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant, Unit 2 identified that the Emergency A/C Power Mitigating Systems Performance Indicator has crossed the Green-to-White threshold. Specifically, during a baseline inspection review, the resident inspectors questioned the data provided in your January 21, 2013, performance indicator submittal. Following this questioning, your staff identified that the Unit 2 D6 emergency diesel generator fan failure, occurring in December 2012, was not included in the most recent performance indicator data submittal to the NRC.

On February 18, 2013, your staff submitted revised data to the NRC for the Unit 2 Emergency A/C power Mitigating Systems Performance Indicator. The NRC completed a review of this data on February 20, 2013, and concluded that performance indicator was appropriately classified as White. Therefore, Unit 2 will transition from the Licensee Response column to the Regulatory Response column of the NRC Action Matrix as of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2012. The NRC will be in contact with your staff to discuss planning and scheduling activities in anticipation of an Inspection Procedure 95001 inspection for this performance indicator.

J. Lynch

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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 Kenneth Riemer at (630) 829-9628 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Steven West, Director  
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 50-282; 50-306; 72-010  
License Nos. DPR-42; DPR-60; SNM-2506

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J. Lynch

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