



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

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

January 27, 2014

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

**SUBJECT: CONFIRMATION OF INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSE EXAMINATIONS:  
PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2**

Dear Mr. Davison:

We have received letters from Xcel Energy, L-XE-12-008, dated July 6, 2012, and L-XE-13-012, dated August 14, 2013. In these letters, Xcel Energy requested an initial operator licensing examination be scheduled for the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant in May 2016 and December 2017.

In response, we have scheduled an initial operator licensing examination for the weeks of May 30 and June 6, 2016, with an onsite validation date of May 9, 2016. Additionally, we have scheduled an initial license examination for the weeks of December 4 and 11, 2017, with an onsite validation date of November 13, 2017.

We note that previously, you were scheduled for an initial operator licensing exam for the weeks of August 4 and 11, 2014. This exam date has not changed. In the unlikely event that we are unable to support the examination during the scheduled weeks, we will inform you immediately, upon discovery, of such conditions and make arrangements to administer the examination at a mutually acceptable date.

We understand that your staff will develop the examinations unless we determine it is necessary for the NRC to develop an examination in which case, we will notify you immediately upon discovery of that need. Because your letter indicated that there were more than nine applicants being considered for each of these examinations, the examinations were each scheduled for two weeks. Please inform us if the number of applicants decline below 10 for any examination as this will impact the examination schedule. Also, please inform us at your earliest opportunity if you discover you need to change the scheduled dates for the examinations.

A supplementary letter will be sent to the training department approximately 120 days prior to the examination informing the training manager of the chief examiner's name. The letter will also outline examination security expectations, list the materials required by the NRC to conduct the examination, reconfirm the examination date, and reconfirm the number of candidates you have in the Training Program.

K. Davison

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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).

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Hironori Peterson, Chief  
Operations Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-282; 50-306;  
License Nos. DPR-42; DPR-60

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K. Davison

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Sincerely,

/RA/

Hironori Peterson, Chief  
Operations Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

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