



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

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

May 23, 2016

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

SUBJECT: OPERATOR LICENSING EXAMINATION APPROVAL

Dear Mr. Northard:

The purpose of this letter is to confirm the final arrangements for the upcoming operator licensing examinations at the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Station.

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has completed its review of the operator license applications in connection with this examination and separately provided a list of approved applicants to Mr. Thomas Wadley, Training Manager. Note that any examination waivers and application denials have been addressed in separate correspondence.

The NRC has approved the subject examinations and you may administer the written examinations in accordance with Revision 10, of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," during the week of June 6, 2016. The NRC staff will administer the operating tests during the weeks of May 30 and June 6, 2016. This examination has undergone extensive review by my staff and representatives responsible for licensed operator training at your facility. Based on this review, I have concluded that the examination meets the guidelines of NUREG-1021, for content, operational, and discrimination validity. By administering this examination, you also agree that it meets NUREG-1021 guidelines, and is appropriate for measuring the qualifications of licensed operator applicants at your facility. If you determine that this examination is not appropriate for licensing operators at your facility, do not administer the examination and contact me at 630-829-9834.

Please contact your Chief Examiner, Mr. Dell McNeil, at 630-829-9737, if you have any questions or identify any errors or changes in the license level, reactor operator (RO) or senior reactor operator (SRO), or type of examination (partial or complete written examination and/or operating test) specified for each applicant.

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 2.390, "Public Inspections, Exemptions, Requests for Withholding," of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC's Public Document

S. Northard

-2-

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Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Robert J. Orlikowski, Chief  
Operations Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

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

cc: Distribution via LISTSERV®  
Thomas Wadley, Training Manager

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Robert J. Orlikowski, Chief  
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Thomas Wadley, Training Manager

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