



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

June 7, 2016

Mr. Peter A. Gardner
Site Vice President
Northern States Power Company - Minnesota
Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant
2807 West County Road 75
Monticello, MN 55362-9637

SUBJECT: NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION PLAN FOR THE AUDIT OF
NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY MINNESOTA'S FLOOD HAZARD
REEVALUATION REPORT SUBMITTAL RELATING TO THE NEAR-TERM
TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATION 2.1-FLOODING FOR MONTICELLO
NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT (CAC NO. MF7712)

Dear Mr. Gardner:

This letter documents the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's plan to perform a regulatory audit of Northern States Power Company - Minnesota's (the licensee), doing business as Xcel Energy, supporting calculations for the Flood Hazard Reevaluation Report (FHRR) submittal related to the Near-Term Task Force Recommendation 2.1, Flooding for Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant (Monticello). This technical audit will be performed consistent with NRC Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Office Instruction LIC-111, and "Regulatory Audits," dated December 29, 2008 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML082900195). The audit will be conducted over multiple sessions, as needed, and the NRC staff will develop an audit summary report to document its observations and conclusions within 90 days of the final audit session.

The audit will provide the NRC staff with a better understanding of the Monticello FHRR, which was submitted by letter dated May 12, 2016 (ADAMS Accession No. ML16145A179). Specifically, the audit will provide the NRC with a better understanding of the analyses of the flooding hazards presented in the Monticello FHRR. The audit is intended to support completion of the staff's review of the FHRR and the subsequent issuance of a staff assessment.

The enclosed audit plan outlines the process that will allow the NRC staff to identify additional information potentially necessary for licensees to supplement their FHRRs and resolve potential technical concerns. The NRC staff discussed the details of this audit with Mrs. Lynne Gunderson and Mr. Gene Eckholt of your staff.

P. Gardner

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If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-6185 or by e-mail at Victor.Hall@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Victor E. Hall". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Victor Hall, Senior Project Manager
Hazards Management Branch
Japan Lessons-Learned Division
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No.: 50-263

Enclosure:
Audit Plan

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NRC PLAN FOR THE AUDIT OF
NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY - MINNESOTA'S
FLOODING HAZARD REEVALUATION REPORT SUBMITTAL RELATING TO
THE NEAR-TERM TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATION 2.1-FLOODING FOR
MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT

BACKGROUND AND AUDIT BASIS:

By letter dated March 12, 2012, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued a request for information to all power reactor licensees and holders of construction permits in active or deferred status, pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), Section 50.54(f) "Conditions of license" (hereafter referred to as the "50.54(f) letter"). The request was issued in connection with implementing lessons-learned from the 2011 accident at the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant, as documented in The Near-Term Task Force Review of Insights from the Fukushima Dai-ichi Accident. Recommendation 2.1 of that document recommended that the staff issue orders to all licensees to reevaluate seismic and flooding for their sites against current NRC requirements and guidance. Subsequent Staff Requirements Memoranda associated with Commission Papers SECY 11-0124 and SECY-11-0137, instructed the NRC staff to issue requests for information to licensees pursuant to 10 CFR 50.54(f).

By letter dated May 12, 2016, Northern States Power Company - Minnesota (NSPM, the licensee), doing business as Xcel Energy submitted its Flood Hazard Reevaluation Report (FHRR) for Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant (Monticello) (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML16145A179). The NRC staff has begun its review of the aforementioned submittals and plans to conduct a regulatory audit of NSPM to aid in its review of the licensee's FHRR.

REGULATORY AUDIT SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY:

The areas of focus for the regulatory audit is the information contained in the Monticello FHRR submittal, and all associated and relevant supporting documentation used in the development of the aforementioned document including, but not limited to, methodology, process information, calculations, computer models, etc. The audit will be conducted and completed over a small number of meetings that are to be determined, as necessary.

Enclosure

INFORMATION AND OTHER MATERIAL NECESSARY FOR THE REGULATORY AUDIT:

The information required for the audit is the licensee's models and supporting calculations, as well as documentation related to the storm surge and site specific probable maximum precipitation analyses. Other information needs will be discussed as audit meetings are scheduled.

NRC AUDIT TEAM:

Title	Team Member	Affiliation
Team Leader, NRR/JLD	Victor Hall	NRC
Branch Chief, NRO/DSEA	Aida Rivera-Varona	NRC
Technical Lead	Peter Chaput	NRC
Technical Support	To Be Determined	Oak Ridge National Laboratory

LOGISTICS:

The audit meetings will be coordinated with NSPM staff.

DELIVERABLES:

The NRC team will develop an audit summary report to convey the audit results. The report will be placed in ADAMS within 90 days of the completion of the final audit session, and will be publicly available.

The information discussed in the audit may be included, fully or in part, in the development of the NRC technical staff's assessments as a result of the FHRR review.

P. Gardner

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If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-6185 or by e-mail at Victor.Hall@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Victor Hall, Senior Project Manager
Hazards Management Branch
Japan Lessons-Learned Division
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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