



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

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

March 1, 2017

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

**SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING
PLANT (REPORT 05000263/2016006)**

Dear Mr. Gardner:

The NRC has completed its end-of-cycle performance assessment of Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant, reviewing performance indicators (PIs), inspection results, and enforcement actions from January 1, 2016, through December 31, 2016. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of your facility during this period and its plans for future inspections at your facility. The NRC concluded that overall performance at your facility preserved public health and safety.

The NRC determined the performance at Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant during the most recent quarter was within the Regulatory Response Column, the second highest performance column of the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Action Matrix. This conclusion was based on a single inspection finding having low-to-moderate safety significance (i.e., White) in the Mitigating Systems Cornerstone originating in the third quarter of 2016, and all PIs within the expected range (i.e., Green).

On December 21, 2016, the NRC was notified of your readiness for the supplemental inspection to review the actions taken to address the performance issues. Therefore, in addition to ROP baseline inspections, the NRC plans to conduct a supplemental inspection in accordance with Inspection Procedure 95001, "Supplemental Inspection for One or Two White Inputs in a Strategic Performance Area." The purpose of the inspection is to provide assurance that: (1) the root causes and contributing causes of risk-significant performance issues are understood; (2) the extent of condition and extent of cause of risk-significant performance issues are identified; and (3) your corrective actions for risk-significant performance issues are sufficient to address the root and contributing causes and prevent recurrence.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through December 31, 2017. The NRC provides the inspection plan to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. The inspections listed during the last twelve months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised. The NRC will contact you as soon as possible to discuss changes to the inspection plan should circumstances warrant any changes.

P. Gardner

- 2 -

This inspection plan does not include the plan for security-related inspections, which will be sent via separate, non-publicly available correspondence.

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (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 (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is 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/

Patrick L. Loudon, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 50-263
License Nos. DPR-22

Enclosure:
Inspection Plan

cc: Distribution via LISTSERV®

P. Gardner

- 3 -

Letter to Peter Gardner from Patrick Loudon dated March 1, 2017

SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING
PLANT (REPORT 05000263/2016006)

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DATE	02/23/2017		02/24/2017				

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Monticello
Inspection / Activity Plan
03/01/2017 - 12/31/2018

Unit Number	Planned Dates		Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
Start	End				
			BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION		2
1	04/17/2017	04/21/2017	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1	04/17/2017	04/21/2017	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1	04/17/2017	04/21/2017	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
			ISI - IINSERVICE INSPECTION		1
1	04/15/2017	05/15/2017	IP 7111108G	Inservice Inspection Activities - BWR	
			BI FIRE - TRIENNIAL FIRE PROTECTION AND BAG TRIP		5
1	06/12/2017	07/14/2017	IP 7111105T	Fire Protection [Triennial]	
			BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION		1
1	07/17/2017	07/21/2017	IP 71124.07	Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program	
1	07/17/2017	07/21/2017	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
			BI EP - EP EXERCISE INSPECTION / PI VERIFICATION		5
1	08/28/2017	09/01/2017	IP 7111401	Exercise Evaluation	
1	08/28/2017	09/01/2017	IP 7111406	Drill Evaluation	
1	08/28/2017	09/01/2017	IP 7111408	Exercise Evaluation – Scenario Review	
1	08/28/2017	09/01/2017	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
			BI ENG - DBA PROGRAMS		3
1	09/18/2017	10/06/2017	IP 7111121N	Component Design Bases Inspection (Programs)	
			BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION		1
1	10/02/2017	10/06/2017	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
			OL-RQ - BIENNIAL REQUAL PROGRAM INSPECTION		2
1	10/16/2017	10/20/2017	IP 7111111B	Licensed Operator Requalification Program	
			BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION		1
1	01/22/2018	01/26/2018	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
			BI ENG - DBA TEAM INSPECTION		3
1	08/06/2018	08/24/2018	IP 7111121M	Component Design Bases Inspection (Teams)	
			FLEX - FLEX/MITIGATING STRATEGIES/SFP		4
1	03/05/2018	03/09/2018	IP 2515/191	Inspection of Licensee's Responses to Order EA-12-049, EA-12-051 & EP Info Request March 12, 2012	
			BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION		1
1	06/04/2018	06/08/2018	IP 71124.08	Radioactive Solid Waste Processing and Radioactive Material Handling, Storage, and Transportation	
			ISFSI - ISFSI CASK LOADING INSPECTION		2
1	06/01/2018	09/01/2018	IP 60855.1	Operation of an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation at Operating Plants	

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.
This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.

Monticello
Inspection / Activity Plan
03/01/2017 - 12/31/2018

Unit Number	Planned Dates		Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
	Start	End			
			BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION		1
1	08/27/2018	08/31/2018	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
			BI PI&R - BIENNIAL PI&R INSPECTION		4
1	09/17/2018	10/05/2018	IP 71152B	Problem Identification and Resolution	
			OL PREP - INITIAL PREP SEPT/OCT 2018		3
1	09/24/2018	09/28/2018	W90375	OL - INITIAL EXAM - 2018 SEPT-OCT - MONTICELLO	
			OL EXAM - INITIAL EXAM SEPT/OCT 2018		3
1	10/22/2018	10/31/2018	W90375	OL - INITIAL EXAM - 2018 SEPT-OCT - MONTICELLO	