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NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55401

May 29, 1979

Mr. James G. Keppler
Director - Region III
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
799 Roosevelt Road
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

Dear Mr. Keppler:

PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT
Docket Nos. 50-282 License Nos. DPR-42
50-306 DPR-60

Response to IE Bulletins 78-12, 78-12A, and 78-12B
dated September 29, 1978, November 29, 1978, and March 19, 1979

IE Bulletin 78-12 described an event which occurred at another facility in which weld wire used in some reactor vessel welds was different than the weld wire called for in the design specifications. We were asked to supply, within 60 days, a variety of information concerning the weld material and procedures used in the fabrication of the Prairie Island vessels. Bulletins 78-12A and 78-12B revised the list of information which was to be supplied and set submittal dates of May 1, 1979 for generic reports from vessel vendors and May 29, 1979 for licensee responses.

The reactor vessels for the Prairie Island plant were manufactured by Creusot-Loire of France for Westinghouse. We have been notified that Creusot-Loire has not been able to meet the May 1, 1979 submittal date established for the vendor's response to the subject Bulletins. A submittal date in mid-June is expected.

Following the release of the Creusot-Loire generic report, it will be reviewed for applicability to the Prairie Island units and a followup to this letter will be submitted which will satisfy the licensee reporting requirements of the Bulletins.

Please contact us if you require additional information concerning our response or if our proposed schedule is not adequate.

Very truly yours,

L. J. Wachter
L. J. Wachter

Vice President - Power Production
and System Operation

cc: Mr. G. Charnoff
NRC Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Washington, DC

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