



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

MAY 10 1978

Bevan

MEMORANDUM FOR: George Lear, Chief, Operating Reactors Branch #3, DOR

FROM: Roby Bevan, Project Manager, Operating Reactors
Branch #3, DOR

SUBJECT: STATUS OF MONTICELLO ELECTRICAL SPLICE UPGRADE

On April 24, 1978, a Preliminary Notice (PNO-78-91) was issued by OI&E stating that the licensee (NSP) had announced that Monticello would be shutdown on April 26, 1978 to replace approximately 100 electrical splices inside containment in safety related circuits. The splices were being replaced because documentation was not available to support the qualification of the splices for the DBA environment. The material covering the splices was thought to be polyvinyl chloride (PVC). The licensee decided to replace the PVC with a polyolefin (Ray-Chem) cover material for which qualification can be documented.

Following several days of preparation (obtaining materials, qualifying personnel, establishing procedures, etc.) the plant was shutdown late April 26, 1978. All suspect splices were replaced and several samples of the old splice material were taken to be analyzed in the company laboratory. The changeout was completed and the plant returned to power on April 28, 1978.

The licensee's work was followed closely by OI&E, Region III inspectors who expressed satisfaction with the work done. OI&E, Region III continues to follow this matter at Monticello as an item of primary interest to OI&E.

An OI&E Circular is now being prepared by OI&E Headquarters to describe this event and other instances of inadequate qualification of electrical equipment.

The ORPM for Monticello has been and will continue to be informed by both Regional inspectors and the licensee if there are further developments in this area at Monticello. Such information will be reported to Bob Cudlin, DOR coordinator of information on qualification of electrical equipment when it becomes available.

George Lear

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The licensee (Northern States Power) will report the event and corrective action in a LER.

Roby Bevan

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