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FEB 11 1974

Donald J. Skovholt, Assistant Director for Operating Reactors, L

WITHHOLDING OF PROPRIETARY INFORMATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 2.790 -
DOCKET NO. 50-263

letter dated December 14, 1973, Northern States Power Company (NSP) transmitted a proprietary report NEDE-20179 "Monticello Segmented Test Rod Bundle Submittal" and requested that the report be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to Section 2.790(b) of 10 CFR Part 2. By letter to us dated January 15, 1974, NSP transmitted a replacement page for Table 3-1 of the NEDE-20179 report and also a Attachment A which discusses the nature of the revision of the report, the reason for the change and a safety evaluation requesting that they also be withheld as proprietary information. The NEDE-20179 report supplements the Monticello Second Reload Submittal (non-proprietary) which was transmitted to us by letter dated November 19, 1973.

In NSP's letter dated December 14, 1973, it is stated that the information presented in the NEDE-20179 report has been handled and classified proprietary by General Electric Company (GE) because the features of the segmented test rods employ advanced design and materials processes to improve performance and economics which were obtained at GE's expense with considerable commercial value, and thus entitled to protection of its competitive position.

From our review of the subject proprietary and non-proprietary documents in an attempt to achieve an effective balance between legitimate concerns for protection of GE's competitive position and the right of the public to be fully apprised as to the operation of Monticello, the proposed reload fuel change and its related changes and safety issues, we have concluded that Northern States Power Company has made a sufficient showing that GE's interest could be adversely affected by disclosure of the information contained in the proprietary report and its supplements. We also have concluded that sufficient information is contained in the non-proprietary version filed with NSP's letter dated November 19, 1973, and in other non-proprietary documents in the public record of Docket No. 50-263 to advise an interested member of the public on the operation of Monticello, the pending fuel change and applicable safety considerations.

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In view of the foregoing, I have determined that disclosure of the information contained in the report NEDE-20179 "Monticello Segmented Test Rod Bundle Submittal", replacement page for Table 3-1 of that report, and Attachment A is not required in the public interest nor by Part 9, and it should therefore be withheld from public inspection pursuant to Section 2.790 of 10 CFR Part 2. A letter is being sent to Northern States Power Company granting the withholding requests.

Original Signed by:
Dennis L. Ziemann

Dennis L. Ziemann, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #2
Directorate of Licensing

cc: A. Roisman, Esquire
Berlin, Roisman and Kessler

Northern States Power Company
AEC PD
Local PD
Docket File
Branch Reading
IR Reading
DLZiemann
TJGarter
RMDiggs
SDKeed
JJShea
RKeid
OGC
CIS

OFFICE	L:ORB #2	L:ORB #2	L:ORB #2	L:ORB #2	OGC
SURNAME	SDKeed	RMDiggs	JJShea	DLZiemann	OGC
DATE	1/24/74	1/25/74	1/25/74	1/25/74	1/27/74

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