

October 22, 1996

Mr. Roger O. Anderson, Director  
Licensing and Management Issues  
Northern States Power Company  
414 Nicollet Mall  
Minneapolis, MN 55401

SUBJECT: CONFIRMATORY AUDIT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 97 -  
MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT (TAC NO. M94309)

Dear Mr. Anderson:

As we have previously indicated to you in a letter dated September 17, 1996, the NRC will perform a confirmatory audit on the implementation of Amendment No. 97 to Facility Operating License No. DPR-22 for the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant. The onsite audit activities are scheduled for November 14, 1996. The agenda for the audit is enclosed for your information. The contents of this agenda was communicated to Mr. Marvin Engen of your staff on October 8, 1996.

Amendment No. 97, as approved by the NRC on September 17, 1996, modifies the requirements for avoidance and protection from thermal hydraulic instabilities to be consistent with the Boiling Water Reactor (BWR) Owners Group long-term solution Option I-D described in the Licensing Topical Report NEDO-31960, "BWR Owners Group Long-Term Stability Solutions Licensing Methodology," June 1991, and NEDO-31960, Supplement 1, dated March 1992. NEDO-31960 and Supplement 1 to NEDO-31960 were endorsed by the NRC staff in a letter to L.A. England (BWR Owners Group) dated July 12, 1993. The amendment also adds the fuel cycle dependent stability power and flow limits in the Core Operating Limits Report.

The main purpose of the audit is to confirm that the station procedures, guidelines, and training are adequate for Option I-D implementation. The audit will be conducted by Dr. Tai Huang of this office and a NRC contractor. The results of the audit will be documented in an audit report which should be issued within 45 days of the audit.

If you have any questions regarding the enclosed agenda, or on the audit itself, please call me at (301) 415-1392.

Sincerely,

/s/

Tae Kim, Senior Project Manager  
Project Directorate III-1  
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-263  
Enclosure: Audit Agenda  
cc w/encl: See next page

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Mr. Roger O. Anderson, Director  
Northern States Power Company

Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant

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January 1995

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## AGENDA FOR MONTICELLO AUDIT

- (1) Review of Monticello I-D exclusion region calculations. Audit will include the following items:
  - (a) Engineering procedures/guidelines or technical documents for future exclusion region calculations, and
  - (b) Reload confirmation procedures.
- (2) I-D implementation. The purpose of this audit item is to identify schedules and methods for full implementation of Solution I-D in Monticello.
- (3) Review of core stability-related procedures. The audit will include all procedures and engineering guidelines related to core stability as follows:
  - (a) Startup procedures/guidelines to avoid instabilities,
  - (b) Flow-reduction events procedures/guidelines to avoid/recognize core instabilities, and
  - (c) Power distribution controls procedures/guidelines. Interviews with STAs or plant operators may be required to determine the implementation of the guidelines and procedures.
- (4) Audit of core stability-related training records. The audit will include the review of training materials and records to determine the adequacy of stability-related training. This audit may include interviews with training officers and/or plant operators.
- (5) Power distribution controls implementation. This part of the audit will involve a review of the SOLOMON software system implementation. This review will require an in-plant demonstration and a review of available engineering design records for its installation and coupling to Monticello plant computer variables.

Enclosure