

October 7, 1996

Mr. E. Watzl, Vice President
Nuclear Generation
Northern States Power Company
414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55401

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-282/306/96008(DRP)
NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Watzl:

On August 29, 1996, the NRC completed an inspection at your Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant. The enclosed report presents the results of that inspection.

During this inspection, we developed concerns with implementation of your surveillance program. We are concerned about the inadequate review of a diesel cooling water pump surveillance by three licensed operators, which resulted in the failure to recognize test results were outside of the test acceptance criteria rendering the system inoperable. Subsequently, the redundant pump was also made inoperable during a surveillance resulting in both pumps being inoperable for approximately 10 minutes; a condition prohibited by Technical Specification. The NRC followup of this issue identified two violations for failure to implement administrative controls that resulted in failure to initiate timely corrective action and a violation for failure to make a timely report required by 10 CFR 50.73.

There have been other recent issues, including another NRC-identified failure to submit a report required by Technical Specifications discussed in Inspection Report 50-282(306)/96-07 and NRC-identified weaknesses in tracking biannual procedure reviews, that indicate a need for additional management attention in implementing the administrative requirements of Section 6 of your Technical Specifications.

We are also concerned that your evaluation of two significant engineering issues was untimely and narrowly focused. Those issues are considered unresolved by the NRC pending our further review.

The violations are cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation, and the circumstances surrounding the violations are described in detail in the enclosed report. Please note that you are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. The NRC will use your response, in part, to determine whether further enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

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E. Watzl

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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR).

Sincerely,

/s/John A. Grobe, DePuty Director, for
James L. Caldwell, Acting Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos.: 50-282, 50-306
License Nos: DPR-42, DPR-60

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Violation
2. Inspection Report No. 50-282/306/96008

cc w/encl: Plant Manager, Prairie Island
John W. Ferman, Ph.D.,
Nuclear Engineer, MPCA
State Liaison Officer, State
of Minnesota
State Liaison Officer, State
of Wisconsin
Tribal Council
Prairie Island Dakota Community

Docket File w/encl
PUBLIC 1E-01 w/encl
OC/LFDCB w/encl
SRI Prairie Island w/encl
Monticello w/encl
B. L. Burgess, w/encl
W. L. Axelson, w/encl

DRP w/encl
RIII PRR w/encl
Prairie Island PM, NRR w/encl
CAAI w/encl (E-mail)
A. B. Beach, w/encl

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OFFICE	RIII	E	RIII	RIII	RIII	N
NAME	Jordan <i>mgg</i>		Leach/Gardner	Jacobson	Grobe/Caldwell	
DATE	09/3/96		09/ /96	09/ /96	09/6/96	

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E. Watzl

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OFFICE	RIII	G	RIII	E	RIII	N	RIII
NAME	Jordan <i>SGP</i>		Leach/Gardner <i>SGP</i>		Jacobson <i>SGP</i>		Grobe/Caldwell
DATE	09/25/96		09/12/96		09/12/96		09/ /96

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION III
801 WARRENVILLE ROAD
LISLE, ILLINOIS 60532-4351
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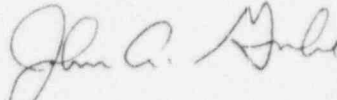
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