



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

November 4, 1996

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

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (RAI) REGARDING TECHNICAL
SPECIFICATION (TS) SOLUBLE BORON CREDIT, PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR
GENERATING PLANT UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2 (TAC NOS. M93072
AND M93073)

Dear Mr. Anderson:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff is reviewing your proposed license amendment request dated July 28, 1995, which would revise the Prairie Island Units 1 and 2 TS to allow the use of credit for soluble boron in spent fuel pool criticality analyses and relocation of the spent fuel pool operating limits to the Core Operating Limits Report (COLR). The staff has identified the following five items of additional information that are required in order to complete its review. The staff understands that you plan to revise your July 28, 1995, submittal based on changes that are being considered by the Westinghouse Owner's Group for one of the related topical reports ("Westinghouse Spent Fuel Rack Criticality Analysis Methodology, WCAP-14416," dated June 1995). You are requested to provide additional information in your revised submittal that addresses the following issues.

1. The staff does not concur with the proposed placement of the burnup vs. initial enrichment figures (Fig. 7 & 8) or tables (Tables 1 & 2) or the 3x3 checkerboard cell storage configuration (Fig. 9) in the COLR. These are not COLR-type items since they do not appear to be items that will change from cycle-to-cycle in the future. In addition, the NRC should review any changes to these items. They should, therefore, be retained in the TS.
2. TS 3.8.E.2 should refer to the normal fuel pool boron concentration (3250 ppm), which could be placed in the COLR.
3. Proposed TS 5.6.A.1.b should also refer to the minimum boron concentration required to maintain the k_{eff} less than or equal to 0.95 limit (1380 ppm). For example, " $k_{eff} \leq 0.95$ if fully flooded with water borated to 1380 ppm...."
4. Figure 5 of the Prairie Island submittal for a 3x3 checkerboard configuration approaches a burnup limit of 45,000 MWD/MTU for OFA [optimized fuel assembly] fuel. Since WCAP-14416-P (Table 6) indicates a positive bias above 40,000 MWD/MTU, axial burnup distribution effects should be included in the burnup credit limit.

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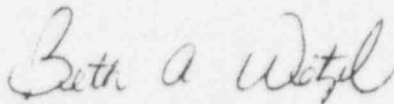
R. O. Anderson

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5. Discuss any changes in plant procedures if necessary to control pool boron concentrations and water inventory during both normal and accident conditions.

Please contact me at (301) 415-1355 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Beth A. Wetzel, Project Manager
Project Directorate III-1
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-282 and 50-306

cc: See next page

R. O. Anderson

- 2 -

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Please contact me at (301) 415-1355 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Beth A. Wetzel, Project Manager
Project Directorate III-1
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-282 and 50-306

cc: See next page

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

Prairie Island Nuclear Generating
Plant

cc:

J. E. Silberg, Esquire
Shaw, Pittman, Potts and Trowbridge
2300 N Street, N. W.
Washington DC 20037

Plant Manager
Prairie Island Nuclear Generating
Plant
Northern States Power Company
1717 Wakonade Drive East
Welch, Minnesota 55089

Adonis A. Neblett
Assistant Attorney General
Office of the Attorney General
455 Minnesota Street
Suite 900
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-2127

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Resident Inspector's Office
1719 Wakonade Drive East
Welch, Minnesota 55089-9642

Regional Administrator, Region III
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
801 Warrenville Road
Lisle, Illinois 60532-4351

Mr. Jeff Cole, Auditor/Treasurer
Goodhue County Courthouse
Box 408
Red Wing, Minnesota 55066-0408

Kris Sanda, Commissioner
Department of Public Service
121 Seventh Place East
Suite 200
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-2145

Site Licensing
Prairie Island Nuclear Generating
Plant
Northern States Power Company
1717 Wakonade Drive East
Welch, Minnesota 55089