



Northern States Power Company

Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant

1717 Wakonade Dr. East
Welch, Minnesota 55089

October 30, 1996

Generic Letter 96-06

U S Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT

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

Response to Generic Letter 96-06, Assurance of Equipment Operability
and Containment Integrity During Design-Basis Accident Conditions

The purpose of this letter is to provide the initial 30 day response to NRC Generic Letter 96-06 for the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant.

Prairie Island is continuing to evaluate the containment fan cooler cooling water system for waterhammer and two-phase flow conditions during postulated accidents. Additionally, evaluations of piping systems that penetrate containment to determine if they are susceptible to thermal expansion of fluids which may cause over-pressure conditions are continuing.

The operability of affected systems has been assessed based on preliminary analysis results. These assessments have determined that all affected equipment is operable. Analyses are currently being finalized.

Upon completion of the analyses of (1) waterhammer and two-phase flow conditions in the containment fan cooler cooling water system and (2) the over-pressure susceptibility of piping systems that penetrate containment due to thermal expansion of fluids a summary report will be provided which describes the evaluations performed and the basis for operability of the affected systems. We commit to providing this summary report no later than January 28, 1997.

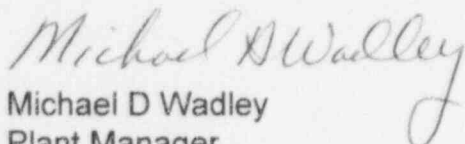
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Currently, no corrective actions are planned. Any changes made in system operation in the future would increase the system design margins and are not required for system operability.

We believe the evaluations that are being performed are fully responsive to the concerns identified by the Commission in the Generic Letter. Please contact Jack Leveille (612-388-1121, Ext. 4662) if you have any questions related to this letter.



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Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant

c: Regional Administrator - Region III, NRC
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