

December 24, 1996

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

SUBJECT: PLANT PERFORMANCE REVIEW (PPR) - MONTICELLO

Dear Mr. Watzl:

On November 7, 1996, the NRC Region III management and staff completed the semiannual Plant Performance Review (PPR) of Monticello. The Region conducts these reviews for all operating nuclear power plants to develop an integrated understanding of safety performance. The results are used by NRC management to facilitate planning and allocation of inspection resources. The PPR for Monticello involved the participation of all technical divisions in evaluating inspection results and safety performance information for the period of March 1996 through September 1996. PPRs provide NRC management with a current summary of licensee performance and serve as inputs to the NRC Systematic Assessment of Licensee Performance (SALP) and senior management meeting (SMM) reviews.

This letter advises you of our planned inspection effort resulting from the Monticello PPR review. It is provided to minimize the resource impact on your staff and to allow for scheduling conflicts and personnel availability to be resolved in advance of inspector arrival onsite. The enclosure details our inspection plan for the next 6 months. The rationale or basis for each inspection outside the "Core" inspection program is provided so that you are aware of the reason for emphasis in these program areas. Resident inspections, as well as periodic inspections by staff, are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature.

E. Watzl

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We are interested in feedback on this program, including the need for any changes in the inspection plan, and we invite your questions or comments. If changes are necessary, you will be informed. If you have any questions, please contact me at (630) 829-9736.

Sincerely,

/s/ E. Schweibinz for
John M. Jacobson, Chief
Reactor Projects Branch 4

Docket No. 50-263
License Nos. DPR-22

Enclosure: Inspection Plan

cc w/encl: Plant Manager, Monticello
John W. Ferman, Ph.D.,
Nuclear Engineer, MPCA
State Liaison Officer, State
of Minnesota

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MONTICELLO

INSPECTION PLAN

IP - Inspection Procedure

TI - Temporary Instruction

Core Inspection - Minimum NRC Inspection Program (mandatory all plants)

INSPECTION	TITLE/ PROGRAM AREA	NUMBER OF INSPECTORS	PLANNED INSPECTION DATES	TYPE OF INSPECTION - COMMENTS
IP 81700	Physical Security Program for Power Reactors	1	1/20-24/97	Core Inspection
IP 71001	Requal Program Evaluation	2	3/10-14/97	Core Inspection
IP 62706	Maintenance Rule Team Inspection	5	6/2-6/97	
IP 84750	Effluents/Chemistry	2	6/2-6/97	Core Inspection