

Public

January 29, 1997

IE-01

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

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-263/96011(DRP)

Dear Mr. Watzl:

On November 27, 1996, the NRC completed an inspection at your Monticello reactor facility. The enclosed report presents the results of that inspection.

During the 6-week period covered by this inspection period, your conduct of activities at the Monticello facility was generally characterized by safety-conscious operations, sound engineering and maintenance practices, and acceptable radiological work controls. However, your dual recirculation pump trip caused by placing jumpers on the wrong relay, indicated a potential weakness in your operational checking and verification efforts. We will review your assessment of and corrective actions for this error during the next inspection period.

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.

Sincerely,

/s/ J. A. Grobe for  
James Caldwell, Director  
Division of Reactor Projects

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

Enclosure: Inspection Report No. 50-263/96011(DRP)

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

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