

August 6, 1985

Docket Nos. 50-282
and 50-306

Mr. D. M. Musolf
Nuclear Support Services Department
Northern States Power Company
414 Nicollet Mall - 8th Floor
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Dear Mr. Musolf:

The NRC staff is in the process of developing a policy regarding "flooding of safety equipment compartments by backflow through floor drains" which we have designated as Generic Issue 77. We have been contacting several utilities to seek their voluntary assistance by responding to the enclosed questions. The possibility of Northern States Power Company's voluntary participation in this effort was discussed with you by teleconference on July 26, 1985. At that time, you indicated a willingness to participate.

The purpose of this letter is to request that you review the enclosed questions and confirm your continued willingness to assist us in the resolution of this generic issue. In order that we might develop our program schedule as soon as possible, please inform us within 30 days of receipt of this letter whether you can support the program and, if so, when you can respond to the enclosed questions. We would appreciate it if you could schedule your response to the enclosed questions for no later than 120 days from the date of your response to this letter.

OMB Clearance is not required for this request since it is being transmitted to fewer than 10 addressees.

Sincerely,

Dominic C Di Ianni / for.

Edward J. Butcher, Acting Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #3
Division of Licensing

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

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Mr. William Miller, Auditor
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Red Wing, Minnesota 55066

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION
GENERIC ISSUE 77

1. Provide a detailed discussion of the equipment and floor drainage system(s) which serve safety-related equipment or compartments containing safety-related equipment or compartments. Include diagrams as appropriate. As part of the discussion, describe the features which will prevent backflow from any area into compartments containing safety-related equipment. This discussion should include the drainage system and any other compartment openings such as doors, unsealed penetrations of grating through which fluid may flow. Sources of fluid to be considered are external flooding (ground water seepage, surface influence from rivers, lakes and rain fall ponding) and flooding due to tank failures and pipe breaks including failure of the expansion joints in the circulating water system. The backflowing fluids to be considered are water, steam and hot air. Confirm for those conditions identified above and that redundant safety-related equipment will not be adversely affected by fluid ingress into the equipment compartments.
2. Describe the design basis for sizing the equipment and floor drainage systems and the means for assuring that they can effectively handle the maximum leakage flow conditions in the specific plant areas of concern housing redundant safety-related equipment.
3. Indicate any past incidents of drainage system backflow or other concern for failure of redundant safety-related equipment that has arisen or been postulated in the past due to a fluid leak or harsh environment in safety-related equipment areas.