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Docket No. 50-282
Docket No. 50-306

Northern States Power Company
ATTN: Mr. C. E. Larson
Vice President, Nuclear
Generation
414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55401

Gentlemen:

This is to advise you of a special NRC inspection initiative that is in the late stages of planning. The initiative is entitled the "EOP Inspection Program" and is being conducted at various plants across the nation. The program will include an inspection at the Prairie Island site.

The initiative will be carried out by four inspection teams, one team per vendor type. The scope of the team inspections is performance related as opposed to the original EOP inspections which concentrated on the program. To that end the teams will include persons of varied expertise including; inspection, systems, human factors, and operations. To ensure site knowledge the Senior or Resident inspector assigned to the individual facility will be a member of the team. The inspection will: review EOP's for technical accuracy; verify that specified actions can be accomplished using existing equipment, controls and instrumentation; and determine that the procedures provide plant operators with an effective operating tool. The inspection in general will consist of three parts: first, an in office review of the selected EOP's; second, an inplant walkdown of the procedures, to verify equipment location, equipment access, and equipment labeling; and third, the procedures will be exercised on your simulator (if available) to verify useability and functionality. The inspections will last for approximately four weeks per site with two weeks being onsite.

We wish to emphasize that the inspections are not an evaluation of licensed operators capabilities. The inspections are to evaluate the applicability and useability of existing EOP's across the nation. The results of the inspections will be evaluated on an aggregate bases to determine what action the NRC needs to take to correct any identified deficiencies. I have contacted Mr. L. Waldinger of your training department to facilitate communications with the team leader. The team leader for your facility is Mr. Ray Love from Region III.

The results of the inspections will be provided to you in an inspection report issued by Region III.

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If you have any questions or comments please contact me at 312/790-5695.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY GEOFFREY C. WRIGHT

Geoffrey C. Wright, Chief
Operations Branch

cc: E. L. Watzl, Plant Manager
L. Waldinger, Manager
of Production Training
DCD/DCB (RIDS)
Licensing Fee Management Branch
Resident Inspector, RIII Prairie
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