



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION III  
2443 WARRENVILLE ROAD, SUITE 210  
LISLE, ILLINOIS 60532-4352

March 26, 2021

Mr. Thomas Conboy  
Site Vice President  
Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant  
Northern States Power Company, Minnesota  
2807 West County Road 75  
Monticello, MN 55362-9637

SUBJECT: MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT - REQUEST FOR  
INFORMATION FOR AN NRC TRIENNIAL BASELINE DESIGN BASES  
ASSURANCE INSPECTION (TEAM): INSPECTION REPORT  
05000263/2021010

Dear Mr. Conboy:

On August 16, 2021, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will begin a triennial baseline Design Bases Assurance Inspection (Team) at Monticello Nuclear Generating Station. This inspection will be performed in accordance with NRC Baseline Inspection Procedure 71111.21M.

The Design Bases Assurance Inspection focuses on the design, maintenance, and operation of risk significant components with low margin, or associated with an accident scenario, or a specific system. The inspection also monitors the implementation of modifications to structures, systems, and components as modifications to one system may also affect the design bases and functioning of interfacing systems as well as introduce the potential for common cause failures. The components and modifications to be reviewed during this baseline inspection will be identified as part of the preparation for the inspection and finalized during the in-office preparation week that occurs prior to the first onsite inspection week. In addition, operating experience issues, associated with the component samples, will also be selected for review. The inspection team may request scenarios to be performed on the simulator. This request would require support from your simulator staff to validate scenarios, simulator time, and a crew to perform the actions which would most likely occur during the second onsite week. The team will work closely with your staff early on during the inspection process to ensure this activity can be accomplished with minimal impact.

The inspection will include 2 weeks onsite. The inspection team will consist of six NRC inspectors who will focus on engineering/maintenance/operations of the selected components and modifications. The current inspection schedule is as follows:

- Preparation week: August 9 – 13, 2021
- Onsite weeks: August 16 – 20, 2021, and August 30 – September 3, 2021

Experience with previous baseline design/modification inspections of similar depth and length has shown that this type of inspection is extremely resource intensive, both for the NRC inspectors and the licensee staff. In order to minimize the inspection impact on the site and to ensure a productive inspection for both parties, we have enclosed a request for information needed for the inspection.

It is important that all of these documents are up-to-date and complete in order to minimize the number of additional documents requested during the preparation and/or the onsite portions of the inspection. Insofar as possible, this information should be provided electronically to the lead inspector. The information request has been divided into four groups:

- The first group lists information necessary for our initial inspection scoping activities. This information should be provided to the lead inspector no later than June 11, 2021. The lead inspector will communicate the initial selected set of samples no later than July 2, 2021.
- The second group of documents requested is those items needed to support our in-office preparation activities. This set of documents should be provided to the lead inspector no later than July 30, 2021. During the in-office preparation activities, the team may identify additional information needed to support the inspection.
- The third group includes the additional information above as well as plant specific reference material. This information should be available to the team onsite on August 16, 2021.
- The last group includes supporting information to be provided throughout the inspection. Specifically, corrective action documents and questions developed during the inspection are requested to be provided as the documents are generated.

In addition, the enclosure includes information and requests addressing inspection logistics.

The lead inspector for this inspection is Mr. A. Shaikh. We understand that our licensing contact for this inspection is Mr. G. Hernandez of your organization. If there are any questions about the inspection or the material requested in the enclosure, please contact the lead inspector at 630-829-9824 or via e-mail at [Atif.Shaikh@nrc.gov](mailto:Atif.Shaikh@nrc.gov).

This letter does not contain new or amended information collection requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). Existing information collection requirements were approved by the Office of Management and Budget, Control Number 3150-0011. The NRC may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a request for information or an information collection requirement unless the requesting document displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget Control Number.

This letter and its enclosure will be made available for public inspection and copying at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> and at the NRC Public Document Room in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390, "Public Inspections, Exemptions, Requests for Withholding."

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Atif Shaikh, Senior Reactor Inspector  
Engineering Branch 3  
Division of Reactor Safety

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

Enclosure:  
Design Bases Assurance Inspection  
Document Request

cc: Distribution via LISTSERV®

Letter to Thomas Conboy from Atif Shaikh dated March 26, 2021.

SUBJECT: MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT - REQUEST FOR  
INFORMATION FOR AN NRC TRIENNIAL BASELINE DESIGN BASES  
ASSURANCE INSPECTION (TEAM): INSPECTION REPORT  
05000263/2021010

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## **DESIGN BASES ASSURANCE INSPECTION (TEAMS) REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

### **I. ADMINISTRATIVE INSPECTION INFORMATION**

Inspection Report Number:	05000263/2021010
Onsite Inspection Dates:	August 16 – 20, 2021; and August 30 – September 3, 2021
Inspection Procedure:	IP 71111.21M, “Design Bases Assurance Inspection (Team)”
Lead Inspector:	Atif Shaikh, Senior Reactor Inspector, DRS 630-829-9824 <a href="mailto:Atif.Shaikh@nrc.gov">Atif.Shaikh@nrc.gov</a>
Teammates:	Robert Daley, Senior Reactor Inspector, RIII/DRS Joon Park, Reactor Inspector, RIII/DRS Javier Branch, Reactor Inspector, RI/DRS Susan Gardner, Electrical Engineering Contractor TBD

### **II. LOGISTICS**

Email the following inspection logistics to the lead inspector by July 30, 2021, or sooner:

1. Entrance meeting time and location.
2. Current management and engineering organizational chart.
3. Response team contact information (names and phone numbers) and team roles (e.g., management sponsor, lead, inspector counterpart).
4. Any potential resource conflicts during the inspection (e.g., emergency drills and all-staff meetings).

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 situation, additional logistics related with inspector presence onsite will be coordinated closer to the actual start of the inspection. Reach out to the Team Lead for questions or comments.

### **III. INFORMATION REQUEST**

Contact the lead inspector as soon as possible if you have any questions regarding this information request. Provide the information electronically in “pdf” files, Excel, or other searchable formats, preferably via an electronic sharing service (CERTREC, ShareFile, Box, etc.). If you do not have access to any of these services or similar, we can provide you access to “Box”, which can be used to upload/download and share documents. The files should contain descriptive names and be indexed and hyperlinked to facilitate ease of use. Information in “lists” should contain enough information to be easily understood by someone who has knowledge of light water reactor technology.

Enclosure

## 1. Information Requested for Selection of Components/Modifications

The following information is requested by June 11, 2021, or sooner, to facilitate the initial sample selection.

Note: If you are unable to provide items 1.1. through 1.6.3. as requested, please reach out to the Team Lead as soon as possible.

- 1.1. Risk-ranking of top 500 components from your site-specific probabilistic safety analysis (PSA) sorted by Birnbaum Importance. Include values for Risk Achievement Worth (RAW), Risk-Reduction Worth, and Fussell-Veseley. Please provide the ranking in an Excel spreadsheet that contains the importance measures and the description of the basic event (e.g., not just the basic event designator).
- 1.2. Risk-ranking of top 500 components (i.e. Large Early Release Frequency (LERF)) from your site-specific PSA similar to the request in item 1.1.
- 1.3. Provide a list of the top 500 cut-sets from your PSA. Provide the descriptions of the basic events in the list of cut-sets. (Provide in Excel format.)
- 1.4. Provide a list of the top 100 cut-sets for each initiator modeled in the PSA that contributes more than 5 percent to the baseline plant core damage frequency. (Provide in Excel format.)
- 1.5. Copies of PSA “system notebooks”, Human Error Reliability Analysis Notebook, Internal Flood scenario notebook, and latest internal event PSA summary document.
- 1.6. For the Fire PSA Model:
  - 1.6.1 Provide the fire Probabilistic Risk Analysis (PRA) quantification notebook.
  - 1.6.2 Provide importance measures ranked preferably by Birnbaum but if not available by RAW for the top 500 basic events for the fire PRA. (Provide in Excel format.)
- 1.7. Provide copies of the emergency operating procedures and abnormal operating procedures.
- 1.8. Provide the in-service testing program (IST) document identifying the in-scope valves and pumps, and the associated IST program requirements for each component (e.g., IST valve table identifying category, active/passive function).
- 1.9. List of high-risk Maintenance Rule systems/components based on engineering or expert panel judgment (i.e., those systems/components not identified high risk in the PSA).
- 1.10. Structures, systems, and components (SSCs) in the Maintenance Rule (a)(1) category for the last 3 years.

- 1.11. A list of operating experience evaluations for the last 3 years.
- 1.12. Information of any common cause failure of components experienced in the last 5 years at your facility.
- 1.13. List of Root Cause Evaluations associated with component failures or design issues initiated/completed in the last 5 years.
- 1.14. List of open operability evaluations.
- 1.15. List of “permanent plant modifications” to SSCs that are field work complete. For the purpose of this inspection, permanent plant modifications include permanent:
  - 1.15.1 Plant changes, design changes, set point changes, completed in the last 5 years;
  - 1.15.2 Equivalency evaluations, suitability analyses, and commercial grade dedications completed in the last 3 years;
  - 1.15.3 Procedure changes for Emergency Operating Procedures (EOPs), Abnormal Operating Procedures (AOPs), surveillances, and test procedures in the last 3 years; and
  - 1.15.4 Calculation changes that have been issued for use in the last 3 years.

Note: Items 1.16.1. through 1.16.4. should be provided as separate, individual lists and each list should contain the number of each document, title, revision/date, and the affected system.

- 1.16. List of all time critical and/or risk significant operator actions. Identify those actions that do not have job performance measures.
- 1.17. Copies of procedures addressing the following: modifications, design changes, set point changes, equivalency evaluations or suitability analyses, commercial grade dedications, and post-modification testing.
- 1.18. A list of corrective action documents (open and closed) in the last 3 years that address permanent plant modifications issues, concerns, or processes. These documents should also include the corrective action documents associated with the modification implementation.
- 1.19. Electronic copies of Updated Final Safety Analysis Report, Technical Specifications, Technical Specifications Bases, and Technical Requirements Manual.
- 1.20. Electronic copies of simplified plant drawings (if available). Note: these may be uncontrolled documents such as big notes, training diagrams. etc.

**2. Information Requested (for the approximate seven selected components and seven selected modifications) to Be Available by July 30, 2021, (will be reviewed by the team in the Regional office during the week of August 9, 2021).**

This information should be separated for each selected component or modification, especially if provided electronically (e.g., folder with component or modification name that includes calculations, condition reports, maintenance history, etc.). Items 2.1-2.16 are associated with the selected components and item 2.17 for the selected modifications.

- 2.1. List of condition reports (corrective action documents) associated with each of the selected components for the last 6 years.
- 2.2. The maintenance history (corrective, preventive, and elective) associated with each of the selected components for the last 10 years. Identify frequency of preventive maintenance activities.
- 2.3. Aging Management Program documents applicable to each selected component.
- 2.4. Copies of calculations associated with each of the selected components, excluding data files. [Pipe stress calculations excluded from this request.]
- 2.5. Provide an all-inclusive list of calculation revisions in effect associated with each of the selected components. Include document number, title, and revision number.
- 2.6. Electronic copies of electrical drawings (ac and dc) and key diagrams.
- 2.7. Electronic copy of Piping and Instrumentation Drawings (P&IDs) (if available).
- 2.8. System Health Reports, System Descriptions, Design Basis Documents, and/or Training Lesson Plans associated with each of the selected components.
- 2.9. A list of modifications, including equivalency evaluations and setpoint changes, associated with each of the selected components. This list should include a descriptive paragraph on the purpose of the modification. Please ensure this list only includes design completed (not canceled) modifications.
- 2.10. Copies of operability evaluations (open/closed for last 3 years) associated with each of the selected components and plans for restoring operability, if applicable.
- 2.11. Copies of selected operator work-around evaluations associated with each of the selected components and plans for resolution, if applicable.
- 2.12. Copies of any open temporary modifications associated with each of the selected components, if applicable.
- 2.13. Trend data on the selected electrical/mechanical components' performance for last 3 years (for example, pumps' performance including IST, other vibration monitoring, oil sample results, etc., for valves: stroke time and leak rate results, diagnostic trend data, etc.).



- 2.14. Provide copies of the normal and alarm response procedures associated with the selected components and selected scenarios.
- 2.15. Procedures addressing time critical and/or risk significant operator actions.
- 2.16. Completed tests and surveillances for each selected component performed during the last 3 years. For those tests and surveillances performed at a periodicity of greater than 3 years, provide the latest two performed. Include the associated acceptance criteria basis calculations.
- 2.17. For each of the selected modifications, copies of associated documents such as modification package, engineering changes, 50.59 screening or evaluation, calculations, post-modification test packages, corrective action documents, design drawings, preventive maintenance requirements and procedures, etc.
- 2.18. Corrective Action Program procedures, including the operability/functionality determination procedure.
- 2.19. Quality Assurance Program document/procedure.
- 2.20. A copy of any internal/external self-assessments and associated corrective action documents generated in preparation for the inspection.
- 2.21. A copy of engineering/operations related audits completed in the last 2 years.
- 3. Additional Information to Be Provided on August 16, 2021 Onsite (for final selected components and modifications)**
  - 3.1. During the in-office preparation activities, the team will be making final selections and may identify additional information needed to support the inspection.
  - 3.2. Schedule of any testing/maintenance activities to be conducted on the selected components during the two onsite inspection weeks.
- 4. Information Requested to be Provided Throughout the Inspection**
  - 4.1. Any corrective action documents generated as a result of the team's questions during this inspection as the documents are generated.
  - 4.2. List of questions and/or document requests submitted by the team and their status (e.g., open, closed) sorted by inspector. Provide daily by 2:00 p.m. to each inspector. It is recommended to provide the team leader with a master list sorted by inspector and each inspector with a list containing only the items originated by that inspector.
  - 4.3. If available in hardcopy form, one complete set of P&IDs and simplified drawings (e.g., training schematics). If any of these documents is not available in hardcopy form, contact the lead inspector.

4.4. Please ensure that other supporting documents for the selected items have been located and are readily retrievable as the inspection team will likely be requesting these documents during the inspection. Examples of supporting documents are:

- 4.4.1 Individual Plant Examination/Probabilistic Risk Assessment report;
- 4.4.2 Procurement documents for components and modifications selected (verify retrievable);
- 4.4.3 Plant procedures (normal, abnormal, emergency, surveillance, etc.);
- 4.4.4 Vendor manuals;
- 4.4.5 Historical revisions of the Final Safety Analysis Report; and
- 4.4.6 Copy of electrical drawings, key diagrams and isometrics (paper copies).

If you have questions regarding the information requested, please contact the lead inspector.