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

SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT (REPORT 05000263/2012001)  

Dear Mr. Schimmel:

On February 13, 2013, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed its end-of-cycle performance review of the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant. The NRC reviewed the most recent quarterly performance indicators (PIs) in addition to inspection results and enforcement actions from January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012. This letter informs you of the NRC’s assessment of your facility during this period and its plans for future inspections at your facility.

The NRC determined that overall, the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and met all cornerstone objectives. The NRC determined the performance at the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant during the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC’s Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Action Matrix because all inspection findings had very low (i.e., green) safety significance, and all PIs indicated that your performance was within the nominal, expected range (i.e., green). Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct ROP baseline inspections at your facility.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through December 31, 2014. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. The inspections listed during the last twelve months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the mid-cycle performance review. The NRC provides the inspection plan to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues. The NRC will contact you as soon as possible to discuss changes to the inspection plan should circumstances warrant any changes. This inspection plan does not include security related inspections, which will be sent via separate, non-publicly available correspondence.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure, will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records System (PARS) component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC Web site at http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Please contact me at 630-829-9628 with any questions you may have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

/RA by Julio Lara for/

Kenneth Riemer, Chief
Branch 2
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 50-263;
License Nos. DPR-22

Enclosure: Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant Inspection/Activity Plan

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DATE 2/26/13

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This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.
This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.
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