

**PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION - REGION III**

June 29, 2011

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE - PNO-III-11-008A

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. Some of the information may not yet be fully verified or evaluated by the Region III staff.

**Facility**

Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant  
Northern States Power Co.  
Monticello, MN  
Docket: 50-263  
License: DPR-22

**Licensee Emergency Classification**

Notification of Unusual Event  
 Alert  
 Site Area Emergency  
 General Emergency  
 Not Applicable

SUBJECT: UPDATE TO MONTICELLO SHUTDOWN GREATER THAN 72 HOURS DUE TO A LEAKING SAFETY RELIEF VALVE

DESCRIPTION:

On June 28, 2011, Monticello restarted following a forced outage to replace a leaking safety relief valve. The plant had shutdown on June 24, 2011, after leakage through the "E" safety relief valve reached licensee/vendor pre-established limits for continued operation. The valve had exhibited higher than normal tailpipe temperatures, indicative of leakage through the valve, following plant restart from a planned refueling outage in May 2011.

The NRC resident inspectors, augmented by a region-based inspector, monitored the reactor shutdown, the valve replacement activities and the subsequent restart, and has no concerns.

This preliminary notification is issued for information only. State and local officials have been informed. The site issued a press release on June 23, 2011, describing the event.

The information presented herein has been discussed with the licensee, and is current as of 8:00 a.m. (CST), on June 29, 2011.

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