



Northern States Power Company

Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant
2807 West County Road 75
Monticello, MN 55362

June 2, 2000

US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT
Docket No. 50-263 License No. DPR-22

NSP Submittal of Special Report Required by
Monticello Technical Specification 3.13.B.3.b

This letter provides a special report in accordance with Specification 3.13.B, Fire Suppression Water System, of the Monticello Technical Specifications. When more than one fire pump is simultaneously inoperable, Specification 3.13.B.3.b requires providing a special report to the Commission within 14 days outlining the actions taken and the plans and schedule for restoring the system to operable status. Accordingly, NSP is providing the following special report.

On May 23, 2000 at 4:10 A.M., the Screen Wash/Fire Pump was removed from service to perform planned maintenance. The maintenance involved replacement of the pump with a rebuilt unit. At approximately 1:00 P.M. on May 24, post maintenance testing was being performed on the newly installed Screen Wash/Fire Pump. At this time the Electric Fire Pump and Diesel Fire Pump control switches were required to be turned from AUTO to OFF. At approximately 2:00 P.M. on May 24, while returning the Diesel Fire Pump control switch from OFF to AUTO, the Diesel Fire Pump spuriously started. The Diesel Fire Pump was stopped by returning the control switch to the OFF position and it was declared inoperable. The Control Room was informed and Diesel Fire Pump trouble shooting commenced immediately. The Electric Fire Pump control switch was successfully returned from OFF to AUTO at approximately 2:15 P.M. The Screen Wash/Fire Pump had not yet been declared operable because the test results had not yet been reviewed. The Screen Wash/Fire Pump test results were reviewed and the pump was declared operable at 4:26 P.M. on May 24, 2000. The problem with the Diesel Fire Pump was resolved and it was also declared operable at 4:26 P.M. For the period of time from 2:00 P.M. to 4:26 P.M. on May 24, 2000, more than one fire pump (i.e., the Screen Wash/Fire Pump and the Diesel Fire Pump) was simultaneously declared inoperable. Subsequent review indicated that the Screen Wash/Fire Pump was available to perform its function when the Diesel Fire Pump spuriously started.

During a review of this event, it was determined that the practice of turning two fire pump control switches to the OFF position while performing the fire pump capability testing procedure requires entry into Technical Specification 3.13.B.3, which states:

"With the fire suppression water system otherwise inoperable:

- "1. Establish a backup fire Suppression Water System within 24 hours.

"2. Provide a special report to the Commission within 14 days outlining the actions taken and the plans and schedule for restoring the system to operable status."

During past fire pump capability testing, operator manual actions were credited in lieu of the automatic controls for maintaining pump operability. Further review of Technical Specification 3.13.B.1.a identified an explicit requirement that the automatic initiation logic remain operable in order to maintain the pumps operable. Therefore, past practice of not entering the required action statement 3.13.B.3.b (14 day report) was not appropriate due to the explicit requirement. Pump testing is routinely performed in an approximate 3 hour time frame so that a backup fire suppression water system (action statement 3.13.B.3.a) is never required.

A hold has been placed on the test procedure. The issues identified in this event have been entered into the plant corrective program to identify the causes and appropriate corrective action.

Please contact Doug Neve, Sr. Licensing Engineer, at (763) 295-1353 if additional information is required.



for Byron D. Day
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