Mr. M. Wadley President, Nuclear Generation Northern States Power Company 414 Nicollet Mall Minneapolis, MN 55401

Dear Mr. Wadley:

In a telephone conversation on July 11, 2000, between Mr. Mark Jones and Mr. Dell McNeil, arrangements were made for the administration of an operator licensing retake examination at the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Station on August 22, 2000.

As agreed during the telephone conversation, your staff will prepare the retake operating test (Administrative Job Performance Measures portion only) based on the guidelines in Revision 8 of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." The NRC regional office will discuss with your staff any changes that might be necessary before the examinations are administered.

To meet the above schedule, it will be necessary for your staff to furnish the test outline by July 14, 2000. The retake operating test, and the supporting reference materials will be due by July 24, 2000. Pursuant to 10 CFR 55.40(b)(3), an authorized representative of the facility licensee shall approve the outline and test before they are submitted to the NRC for review and approval. All materials shall be complete and ready-to-use. Any delay in receiving the outline, the test and the reference materials, or the submittal of inadequate or incomplete materials, may cause the test to be rescheduled.

In order to conduct the requested operating test, it will be necessary for your staff to provide adequate space and accommodations in accordance with ES-402. Appendix E of NUREG-1021 contains a number of NRC policies and guidelines that will be in effect while the operating test is being administered.

To permit timely NRC review and evaluation, your staff should submit a preliminary senior reactor operator license application (Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval number 3150-0090), a medical certification (OMB approval number 3150-0024), and waiver requests (OMB approval number 3150-0090) at least 30 days before the examination date. If the applications are not received at least 30 days before the examination date, a postponement may be necessary. Signed applications certifying that all re-training has been completed should be submitted to the NRC chief examiner on August 21, 2000, during validation of the test materials at the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Station.

This letter contains information collections that are subject to the *Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995* (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). These information collections were approved by the Office of Management and Budget, approval number 3150-0101, which expires on September 30, 2000. The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 50 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining the data needed, writing the test, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments on any aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Information and Records Management Branch (T-6 F33), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, or by Internet electronic mail at BJS1@NRC.GOV; and to the Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, NEOB-10202, (3150-0101), Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

The NRC may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Mr. Jones has been advised of the policies and guidelines referenced in this letter. If you have any questions regarding the NRC's examination procedures and guidelines, please contact Ms. Ann Marie Stone at (630) 829-9729, or me at (630) 829-9733.

Sincerely,

/RA/

David E. Hills, Chief Operations Branch Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-282; 50-306 License Nos. DPR-42; DPR-60

cc: Site General Manager, Prairie Island
Plant Manager, Prairie Island
J. Malcolm, Commissioner, Minnesota
Department of Health
State Liaison Officer, State of Wisconsin

Tribal Council, Prairie Island Dakota Community

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