

November 29, 2000

Mr. J. Sorensen  
Site General Manager  
Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant  
Nuclear Management Company, LLC  
1717 Wakonade Drive East  
Welch, MN 55089

**SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND INSPECTION PLAN - PRAIRIE  
ISLAND NUCLEAR POWER PLANT**

Dear Mr. Sorensen:

On November 8, 2000, the NRC staff completed its Mid-Cycle plant performance assessment of Prairie Island. The Mid-Cycle Review for Prairie Island involved the participation of all technical divisions in evaluating performance indicators (PIs) and inspection results for the period of October 1, 1999 through September 30, 2000. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our assessment of your safety performance during this period and our plans for future inspections at your facility so that you will have an opportunity to prepare for these inspections and to inform us of any planned inspections which may conflict with your plant activities.

Plant performance for the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC's Action Matrix, based on all inspection findings being classified as having very low safety significance (Green) and all PIs indicating performance at a level requiring no additional NRC oversight (Green). Therefore, we plan to conduct only baseline inspections at your facility through September 30, 2001. Included in these baseline inspections will be a repeat of our emergency preparedness exercise baseline inspection because the similarities in your August 2000 drill and your September 2000 exercise precluded us from completing our earlier inspection.

The enclosure details the scheduled inspections that will occur through September 30, 2001. The inspection plan is provided to minimize the resource impact on your staff and to allow for scheduling conflicts and personnel availability to be resolved in advance of inspector arrival onsite. Routine resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature. The last 6 months of the inspection plan are tentative and will be revised at the end-of-cycle review meeting.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 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 document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/ADAMS/index.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

J. Sorenson

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If circumstances arise which cause us to change this inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact me at (630) 829-9631 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,

***/RA/***

Roger D. Lanksbury, Chief  
Reactor Projects Branch 5

Docket Nos. 50-282, 50-306  
License No. DPR-42, DPR-60

Enclosure: Prairie Island Inspection/Activity Plan

See Attached Distribution

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cc w/encl: Site General Manager, Prairie Island  
Plant Manager, Prairie Island  
M. Wadley, Chief Nuclear Officer  
G. Eckholt, Site Licensing Manager  
S. Northard, Nuclear Asset Manager  
J. Malcolm, Commissioner, Minnesota  
Department of Health  
State Liaison Officer, State of Wisconsin  
Tribal Council, Prairie Island Dakota Community  
J. Silberg, Esquire  
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