Mr. Roy A. Anderson
Executive Vice President and
Chief Nuclear Officer
Nuclear Management Company, LLC
700 First Street
Hudson, WI 54016

SUBJECT: MONTICELLO AND PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANTS -

REQUEST TO WITHHOLD INFORMATION FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

(TAC NO. MB2171)

Dear Mr. Anderson:

By letter and affidavit dated June 11, 2001, Nuclear Management Company (NMC) submitted, on behalf of Northern States Power Company (NSP, the asset owner), its guarantee of payment of deferred premiums and requested that Attachment 2, "NSP's 2000 Actual Cash Flow and 2001 Projected Cash Flow," be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790.

Your affidavit stated that the submitted information should be considered exempt from mandatory public disclosure for the following reasons:

The material for which exemption from disclosure is sought is confidential financial information.

The information is transmitted to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) in confidence. The information is considered company confidential and has been held in confidence by NMC and NSP.

The information is of the type customarily held in confidence by NMC and NSP and the rationale basis is that it would provide an unfair advantage to competitors if it were disclosed. The information is not available from public sources.

Public disclosure of the information sought to be withheld is likely to cause harm to NMC's and NSP's competitive position and reduce the availability of profit-making opportunities.

The NRC staff has reviewed your application and the material in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 2.790 and, on the basis of your statements, has determined that the submitted information sought to be withheld contains proprietary commercial information and should be withheld from public disclosure. Therefore, Attachment 2 (NSP's 2000 Actual Cash Flow and 2001 Projected Cash Flow), marked as proprietary, will be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790(b)(5) and Section 103(b) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

Withholding from public inspection shall not affect the right, if any, of persons properly and directly concerned to inspect the documents. If the need arises, we may send copies of this information to our consultants working in this area. We will, of course, ensure that the consultants have signed the appropriate agreements for handling proprietary information. If the basis for withholding this information from public inspection should change in the future so that the information could then be made available for public inspection, you should promptly notify the NRC. You should also understand that the NRC may have cause to review this determination in the future, for example, if the scope of a Freedom of Information Act request includes your information. In all review situations, if the NRC makes a determination contrary to the above, you will be notified in advance of any public disclosure.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, I may be reached at 301-415-2296.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Carl F. Lyon, Project Manager, Section 1 Project Directorate III Division of Licensing Project Management Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-263, 50-282, 50-306

cc: See next page

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ACCESSION NO. ML011650709

Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant

CC:

J. E. Silberg, Esquire Shaw, Pittman, Potts and Trowbridge 2300 N Street, N. W. Washington, DC 20037

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Resident Inspector's Office 2807 W. County Road 75 Monticello, MN 55362

Site Licensing Manager Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant Nuclear Management Company, LLC 2807 West County Road 75 Monticello, MN 55362-9637

Robert Nelson, President Minnesota Environmental Control Citizens Association (MECCA) 1051 South McKnight Road St. Paul, MN 55119

Commissioner Minnesota Pollution Control Agency 520 Lafayette Road St. Paul, MN 55155-4194

Regional Administrator, Region III U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission 801 Warrenville Road Lisle, IL 60532-4351

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Nuclear Asset Manager Xcel Energy, Inc. 414 Nicollet Mall Minneapolis, MN 55401

Mr. James R. Morris Site Vice President Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant Nuclear Management Company, LLC 2807 West County Road 75 Monticello, MN 55362-9637 Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant, Units 1 and 2

CC:

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Site Licensing Manager
Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant
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Commissioner
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Tribal Council
Prairie Island Indian Community
ATTN: Environmental Department
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Nuclear Asset Manager Xcel Energy, Inc. 414 Nicollet Mall Minneapolis, MN 55401 Mr. Joel Sorensen Site Vice President Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant Nuclear Management Company, LLC 1717 Wakonade Drive East Welch, MN 55089