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USNRC

Northern States Power Company

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Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant
2807 West Hwy 75
Monticello, Minnesota 55362-9637

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PROPOSED RULE PR 73
(60 FR 24803)

Secretary
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Attn: Docketing and Service Branch

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

PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT
Docket No. 50-282 License No. DPR-40
50-306 DPR-60

Proposed Rule - Changes to Nuclear Power Plant Security Requirements
Associated with Containment Access Control (60 Federal Register 24803 - May 10, 1995)

These comments are submitted in response to the *Federal Register* notice concerning the proposed rule, Changes to Nuclear Power Plant Security Requirements Associated with Containment Access Control (60 *Federal Register* 24803 - May 10, 1995).

Northern States Power (NSP) agrees that the deletion of § 73.55(d)(8), separate access control to containment, is appropriate for the reasons delineated in the proposed rule change. We estimate that the cost savings with the elimination of this requirement will amount to approximately \$34,000 per reactor-year (based on 35 day outage duration). The requirements contained in § 73.55(d)(8) are no longer necessary based on the requirements promulgated for protection from an insider threat, namely § 73.56, "Personnel access authorization requirements for nuclear power plants," and § 73.57 "Requirements for criminal history checks of individuals granted unescorted access to a nuclear power facility or access to Safeguards Information by power reactor licensees." We agree with the NRC's conclusion that the elimination of § 73.55(d)(8) would provide economic relief and reduce occupational exposure, without compromising physical protection of the public health and safety against radiological sabotage at licensed nuclear power reactors.

Roger O. Anderson
Director
Licensing & Management Issues