



M2001149

Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant
Operated by Nuclear Management Company, LLC

November 16, 2001

10 CFR Part 50
Section 50.90

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

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

Response to NRC Request For Additional Information
Regarding License Amendment Request for Monticello
Cycle 21 Safety Limit Minimum Critical Power Ratio (TAC No. MB2855)

Reference 1: Nuclear Management Company, LLC letter, "License Amendment Request for Monticello Cycle 21 Safety Limit Minimum Critical Power Ratio," dated August 30, 2001

Reference 2: Nuclear Regulatory Commission letter, "Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant – Request For Additional Information Related to License Amendment Request (TAC No. MB2855)," dated November 13, 2001

By letter dated August 30, 2001, Nuclear Management company, LLC (NMC) provided the NRC with a request for a "License Amendment Request for Monticello Safety Limit Minimum Critical Power Ratio," (Reference 1). By letter dated November 13, 2001, the NRC provided NMC with a letter "Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant – Request for Additional Information Related to License Amendment Request," (Reference 2).

This letter provides NMC's response to Reference 2. Reference 2 requested NMC to provide the response to two questions asked by the NRC reviewer regarding the information provided in Reference 1.


The attached Exhibit A contains NMC's response to the NRC's Request for Additional Information.

A001

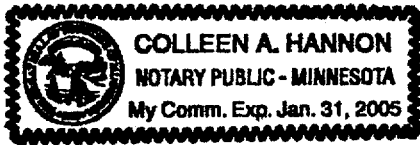
This response does not impact the No Significant Hazards Consideration Determination or Environmental Assessment submitted by the original letter dated August 30, 2001. Therefore, they are still applicable.

Please contact Mr. Doug Neve, Licensing Project Manager (Interim) at 763-295-1353 if you require additional information related to this submittal.

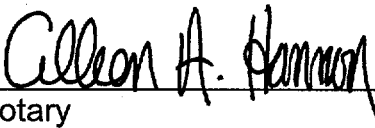
by



Jeffrey S. Forbes
Vice President
Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant



Subscribed to and sworn before me this 16th day of November, 2001


Notary

Attachment: Exhibit A: Response to Request for Additional Information

cc: Regional Administrator-III, NRC
NRR Project Manager, NRC
Resident Inspector, NRC
Minnesota Department of Commerce
J. Silberg

Exhibit A

Response to NRC Request For Additional Information
Regarding License Amendment Request for
Monticello Cycle 21 Safety Limit Minimum Critical Power Ratio

BACKGROUND

By letter dated August 30, 2001, Nuclear Management Company, LLC (NMC) submitted to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) a request for a change in the Technical Specifications, Appendix A of the Operating License for the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant (Reference 1). On November 8, 2001, the NRC staff verbally requested answers to two questions. This call was followed up with a written request for information on November 13, 2001 (Reference 2). NMC provides the following response to the NRC's request for additional information:

NRC QUESTIONS AND NMC RESPONSES:

1. *Provide the specific fuel type, quantity (number of bundles), and cycle number for the fuel loaded into the core for Figures 1 and 2.*

In response to the NRC's question regarding the specific fuel types, quantity, and cycle each was loaded into the core, NMC is providing the following two (2) tables which supply the requested information for Figures 1 and 2 respectively:

For Figure 1 in Attachment D-2 of Reference 1
(Monticello Cycle 20 Reload)

| Code | Fuel Type | Cycle Loaded | Number in Core |
|------|--------------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| A | GE10-P8DXB333-10GZ-100M-145-T | 17 | 44 |
| B | GE10-P8DXB324-11GZ-100M-145-T | 17 | 24 |
| C | GE11-P9DUB347-10GZ-100T-141-T | 18 | 44 |
| D | GE11-P9DUB348-10GZ-100T-141-T | 18 | 96 |
| E | GE12-P10DSB330-12GZ-100T-145-T | 18 | 4 |
| F | GE11-P9DUB366-16GZ-100T-141-T | 19 | 68 |
| G | GE11-P9DUB366-17GZ-100T-141-T | 19 | 60 |
| H | GE11-P9DUB380-17GZ-100T-141-T | 20 | 40 |
| I | GE11-P9DUB380-16GZ-100T-141-T | 20 | 104 |

Exhibit A

For Figure 2 in Attachment D-2 of Reference 1
(Monticello Cycle 21 Reload)

| Code | Fuel Type | Cycle Loaded | Number in Core |
|------|--------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| A | GE11-P9DUB347-10GZ-100T-141-T | 18 | 36 |
| B | GE11-P9DUB348-10GZ-100T-141-T | 18 | 68 |
| C | GE12-P10DSB330-12GZ-100T-145-T | 18 | 4 |
| D | GE11-P9DUB366-16GZ-100T-141-T | 19 | 68 |
| E | GE11-P9DUB366-17GZ-100T-141-T | 19 | 60 |
| F | GE11-P9DUB380-17GZ-100T-141-T | 20 | 40 |
| G | GE11-P9DUB380-16GZ-100T-141-T | 20 | 104 |
| H | GE14-P10DNAB391-14GZ-100T-145-T-2427 | 21 | 80 |
| I | GE14-P10DNAB391-14GZ-100T-145-T-2428 | 21 | 24 |

2. *Provide justification that the overall GEXL14 uncertainty is valid, since a discrepancy was found in the databases during an NRC audit of the GEXL14 correlation. Also, discuss any impact on the SLMCPR calculation due to this discrepancy.*

In response to question 2, NMC contacted General Electric Nuclear Energy (GENE)/ Global Nuclear Fuel-Americas, LLC (GNF-A) for their resolution of the discrepancy that was found in the data bases during an NRC audit of the GEXL14 correlation. GENE/GNF-A provided a letter to NMC stating that after the NRC audit on the GEXL14 correlation identified a discrepancy, that GENE/GNF-A initiated a Potential Reportable Condition to address if this issue constituted a reportable condition within the context of 10 CFR Part 21. The resolution of the Potential Reportable Condition was that it was not reportable pursuant to 10 CFR Part 21. GENE/GNF-A corrected the discrepancy that was found in the data bases for the GEXL14 correlation and has submitted this revision to the NRC in Report NEDC-32851P, Revision 2.

To clarify the impact on the Safety Limit Minimum Critical Power Ratio (SLMCPR) calculation, for Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant Cycle 21, due to the discrepancy identified above, GENE/GNF-A reviewed the initial SLMCPR calculation against what the SLMCPR calculation would be using the revised GEXL14 correlation and determined that the impact would be insignificant (0.0002). Therefore, the Monticello Cycle 21 SLMCPR will not change based on the insignificant impact of the discrepancy identified by the NRC in its audit of the GEXL14 correlation.

REFERENCES

- 1) Nuclear Management Company, LLC letter, "License Amendment Request for Monticello Cycle 21 Safety Limit Minimum Critical Power Ratio," dated August 30, 2001
- 2) Nuclear Regulatory Commission letter, " Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant – Request For Additional Information Related to License Amendment Request (TAC No. MB2855)," dated November 13, 2001