



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

September 16, 1992

Docket No. 50-263

Mr. Thomas M. Parker, Manager  
Nuclear Support Services  
Northern States Power Company  
414 Nicollet Mall  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

Dear Mr. Parker:

SUBJECT: MONTICELLO - AUGUST 12, 1992 REQUEST FOR RELIEF FROM ASME CODE  
HYDROSTATIC TEST REQUIREMENTS (TAC NO. M84254)

Your letter of August 12, 1992 requests relief from the inservice hydrostatic test requirements of Section XI, Article IWA-4400, of the 1986 ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code for certain Class 1 repair and replacement work performed during the 1989 and 1991 refueling outages. Specifically, you requested approval to perform alternative testing (system leakage test at normal operating pressure with VT-2 inspection prior to reactor start-up) in lieu of a special post-repair reactor coolant system hydrostatic test.

Your letter notes that the 1989 and 1991 repairs requiring hydrostatic testing have already been granted relief from Code hydrostatic testing, but indicates that the previously granted relief may be invalid because your commitment to perform a regular 10-year hydrostatic test during the 1993 outage is being withdrawn based on Code Case N-498. Code Case N-498 was approved by Revision 9 to Regulatory Guide 1.147.

We have considered your request and have concluded that additional relief is unnecessary. Although the staff noted your commitment to hydrostatic testing during the 1993 outage in its April 8, 1992 and October 6, 1989 safety evaluations granting relief, the granting of relief was actually based on alternative testing (magnetic particle testing, dye penetrant testing, visual testing, and ultrasonic testing). The commitment to perform a periodic 10-year hydrostatic test in 1993 was not part of the basis for the previously granted relief. Accordingly, that relief is not affected if the 1993 hydrostatic test is withdrawn as permitted by Regulatory Guide 1.147, Revision 9.

Our previously granted relief remains effective notwithstanding the use of Code Case N-498.

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Mr. Thomas M. Parker

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This action closes TAC No. M84254. If you have any questions concerning this action please contact me at (301) 504-3026.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

William O. Long, Project Manager  
Project Directorate III-1  
Division of Reactor Projects, III/IV/V  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

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Mr. T. M. Parker  
Northern States Power Company

Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant

cc:

Gerald Charnoff, Esquire  
Shaw, Pittman, Potts and Trowbridge  
2300 N Street, N. W.  
Washington DC 20037

Lisa R. Tiegel  
Assistant Attorney General  
Environmental Protection Division  
Suite 200  
520 Lafayette Road  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

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

Site General Manager  
Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant  
Northern States Power Company  
Monticello, Minnesota 55362

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

Commissioner  
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
520 Lafayette Road  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55119

Regional Administrator, Region III  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
799 Roosevelt Road  
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

Commissioner of Health  
Minnesota Department of Health  
717 Delaware Street, S. E.  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55440

Darla M. Groshens  
Wright County Auditor/Treasurer  
10 N.W. Second Street  
Buffalo, Minnesota 55313-1193

Kris Sanda, Commissioner  
Director of Public Service  
790 American Center Building  
150 East Kellogg Boulevard  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101