



10 CFR 73.21(g)(3)

April 4, 2002

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
ATTENTION: Document Control Desk  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Docket Nos. 50-331, 50-305, 50-263, 50-255, 50-266, 50-301, 50-282 and 50-306  
Duane Arnold Energy Center  
Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant  
Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant  
Palisades Nuclear Plant  
Point Beach Nuclear Plant  
Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant  
Use of Protected Telecommunications for Transmission of Safeguards Information

Pursuant to 10 CFR 73.21(g)(3), Nuclear Management Company (NMC) requests approval for the use of protected telecommunications as described below for the transmission of Safeguards Information (SGI) among its six plants and NMC's corporate office in Hudson, WI.

Written approval is sought for use of the Privatel Model 960v from L-3 Communications. The Privatel Model 960v is validated to Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) 140-1 (Security Requirements for Cryptographic Modules), and is Number 108 on the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cryptographic Modules Validation List. This is the same unit that was recently approved for use by Southern Nuclear Company.<sup>1</sup>

Use of protected telecommunications systems for transmittal of SGI will enable NMC to more effectively administer its nuclear security program. In light of the continuing generalized high-level threat environment, approval is requested by April 30, 2002. NMC recognizes that the use of a protected communications system does not obviate the need for continued compliance with the provisions of 10 CFR 73.21.

If you have any questions, please call Mark Findlay, Director of Security, at 715-377-3310.

Sincerely,

Edward Weinkam  
Director, Regulatory Services

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<sup>1</sup> Letter dated February 20, 2002 from Leonard N. Olshan, NRC NRR, to H.L. Sumner, Jr., VP Nuclear Hatch Project, Southern Nuclear Company, subject: Use of Protected Telecommunications for Transmission of Safeguards Information