

January 31, 1989

Dockets Nos. 50-282 and 50-306

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

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Dear Mr. Musolf:

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT  
(TACS 66867 AND 66868)

Enclosed is a copy of an "Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact" for your information. This assessment relates to your application dated September 28, 1987, as supplemented October 15, 1987, and June 24, 1988, for amendments to Facility Operating Licenses Nos. DPR-42 and DPR-60 for the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant, Units Nos. 1 and 2. The amendments would change the surveillance test frequency in the Technical Specifications of the turbine stop valves, governor valves and the intercept valves associated with the turbine overspeed protection.

The assessment has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

*Original signed by*

Dominic C. DiIanni, Project Manager  
Project Directorate III-1  
Division of Reactor Projects - III,  
IV, V & Special Projects

Enclosure:  
Environmental Assessment

cc: w/enclosure  
See next page

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

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The assessment has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Dominic C. DiIanni", is written over the typed name.

Dominic C. DiIanni, Project Manager  
Project Directorate III-1  
Division of Reactor Projects - III,  
IV, V & Special Projects

Enclosure:  
Environmental Assessment

cc: w/enclosure  
See next page

Mr. D. M. Musolf  
Northern States Power Company

Prairie Island Nuclear Generating  
Plant

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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
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Mr. William Miller, Auditor  
Goodhue County Courthouse  
Red Wing, Minnesota 55066

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY  
DOCKETS NOS. 50-282 AND 50-306  
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF  
NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of amendments to Facility Operating Licenses Nos. DPR-42 and DPR-60, issued to Northern States Power Company (the licensee), for operation of the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant, Units Nos. 1 and 2, located in Goodhue County Minnesota.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of Proposed Action:

The proposed amendments would revise the Technical Specifications (TSs) by revising the surveillance test frequency of the turbine stop valves, the governor valves and the intercept valves associated with the turbine overspeed protection.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for amendment dated September 28, 1987, as supplemented October 15, 1987, and June 24, 1988.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed change to the TSs is required to: (1) reduce the number of thermal and pressure cycles on the plant; (2) reduce the amount of liquid and

solid radioactive waste that results in a reduction in personnel exposure; and  
(3) reduce the potential for inadvertent reactor scrams.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed revision to the TSs. The proposed revision would revise the surveillance test of the turbine stop valves, the governor valves and intercept valves associated with the turbine overspeed protection to an interval not to exceed one year. Since the evaluation demonstrates that the operating parameters are not affected, the proposed change does not increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of any effluents and the change would reduce the amount of effluents that may be released offsite, and there is no significant increase in the allowable individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that this proposed action would result in no significant radiological environmental impact.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed change to the TSs involves systems located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. It does not affect nonradiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed amendment.

The Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment and Opportunity for Hearing in connection with this action was published in the FEDERAL REGISTER on April 13, 1988 (53 FR 12209). No request for hearing or petition for leave to intervene was filed following this notice.

Alternative to the Proposed Action:

Since the Commission concluded that there are no significant environmental effects that would result from the proposed action, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impacts need not be evaluated.

The principal alternative would be to deny the requested amendments. This would not reduce environmental impacts of plant operation and would result in reduced operational flexibility.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statements related to the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant dated May 1973.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

The Commission's staff reviewed the licensee's request and did not consult other agencies or persons.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed license amendments. Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, we conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated September 28, 1987, as supplemented October 15, 1987, and June 24, 1988, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's

Public Document Room, Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC,  
and at the Technology and Science Department, Minneapolis Public Library,  
300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 31st day of January 1989.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Theodore R. Quay".

Theodore R. Quay, Acting Director  
Project Directorate III-1  
Division of Reactor Projects - III,  
IV, V & Special Projects