

August 16, 1989

Docket Nos. 50-282
and 50-306

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

Dear Mr. Parker:

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT -
(TAC NOS. 71536 AND 71537)

Enclosed is an Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact. This assessment related to your application dated January 12, 1989, for amendments to Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-42 and DPR-60 for the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant, Unit Nos. 1 and 2.

The assessment is being 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
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/enclosure:
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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

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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
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

Mr. T. M. Parker
Northern States Power Company

Prairie Island Nuclear Generating
Plant

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONNORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANYPRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT, UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2DOCKET NOS. 50-282 AND 50-306ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OFNO 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 (licensee), for operation of the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant, Unit Nos. 1 and 2, located in Goodhue County, Minnesota.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTIdentification of the Proposed Action:

The proposed amendments would revise Technical Specifications modifying the pressure-temperature limits taking into consideration the irradiation effects of the embrittlement of the reactor vessel material up to 20 effective full power years. Other modifications are administrative in nature serving to clarify the existing requirements.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for amendment dated January 12, 1989.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed changes to the Technical Specifications are required in order to meet the requirements of Appendices G and H to 10 CFR Part 50 describing specific requirements for fracture toughness and the reactor vessel material surveillance for establishing pressure/temperature limits for the operation of

the reactor coolant system. Other minor administrative changes are necessary to clarify and eliminate any possible ambiguity in the interpretation of the Technical Specifications.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed revisions to the licenses. The proposed revisions would change the pressure-temperature limits for the reactor coolant system and clarify existing requirements involving operation of safety injection pumps, minimum pressurization temperature (MPT) and the description of the steam generator and the pressurizer pressure-temperature limits. The proposed changes would in no way result in increasing the dose to the general public as referenced in the Final Environmental Statements regarding pathways from gaseous or liquid effluents. Collective doses are expected to remain the same as previously analyzed and are very unlikely to pose a significant impact on the quality of the human environment.

With regard to potential non-radiological impacts, the proposed change involves facilities located entirely within the restricted area as defined in the 10 CFR Part 20, 10 CFR 51.31, and Regulatory Guide 8.8. It does not affect non-radiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant non-radiological 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 June 8, 1989 (54 FR 24609). No request for hearing or petition for leave to intervene was filed following this notice.

Alternative to the Proposed Action:

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

The principal alternative would be to deny the requested amendment. 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, Unit Nos. 1 and 2 dated May 1973.

Agencies and Persons Contacted:

The NRC 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 amendment.

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 January 12, 1989, which is available for public inspection at

the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., and the Technology and Science Department, Minneapolis Public Library, 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 16th day of August.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Dominic C. Dilanni".

Dominic C. Dilanni, Acting Director
Project Directorate III-1
Division of Reactor Projects - III,
IV, V & Special Projects
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation