

March 28, 1989

Docket No. 50-282 and 50-306

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

Dear Mr. Musolf:

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SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT -
(TACS 69174 AND 69175)

Enclosed is a copy of an "Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact" for your information. This assessment relates to your application dated July 18, 1988, and supplemented by letters dated September 15, 1988 and March , 1989 for amendments to Facility Operating Licenses Nos. DPR-41 and DPR-60 for the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plan, Units Nos. 1 and 2.

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

Sincerely,

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

Enclosure:
As stated

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 that reads "Dominic C. DiIanni".

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

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

Mr. D. M. Musolf
Northern States Power Company

Prairie Island Nuclear Generating
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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY
PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT, UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2
DOCKET 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 deleting the steam/feedwater mismatch flow in coincident with the low feedwater flow reactor trip.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for amendment dated July 18, 1988 as supplemented by letters dated September 15, 1988 and March 10, 1989.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed changes to the TSs is required in order to permit the installation of a new feedwater flow control system that will result in a significant improvement in plant reliability.

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Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed revision to the Technical Specifications. The proposed revision would eliminate the reactor trip dealing with low steam generator water level coincident with steam/feedwater mismatch flow. This proposed change does not impact on the reactor licensed thermal power level. Since the evaluation demonstrates that the plant does not exceed the acceptable thermal limits, the proposed change does not increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of any 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 environment 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 February 8, 1989, (54 FR 6201). 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 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 Person 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 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 July 18, 1988, and supplemented by letters dated September 15, 1988 and March 10, 1989, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 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 28th day of March 1989.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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

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