

November 21, 2002

Mr. J. Forbes  
Site Vice-President  
Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant  
Nuclear Management Company, LLC  
2807 West County Road 75  
Monticello, MN 55362-9637

SUBJECT: MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT  
USNRC INITIAL LICENSE EXAMINATION REPORT 50-263/02-301(DRS)

Dear Mr. Forbes:

On October 18, 2002, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (USNRC) examiners completed initial operator licensing examinations at your Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant. The enclosed report documents the results of the examination which were discussed on October 18, 2002, with you and other members of your staff.

The USNRC examiners administered an initial license examination operating test during the week of October 14, 2002. A written examination was administered by Monticello Plant training personnel on October 18, 2002. One Reactor Operator (RO) and two Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) applicants were administered license examinations. The results of the examinations were finalized on November 4, 2002. Two applicants passed all sections of their respective examinations and were issued applicable operator licenses. One SRO applicant failed the written examination and was issued a proposed license denial letter.

In accordance with 10 CFR Part 2.790 of the USNRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be available electronically for public inspection in the USNRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of USNRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the USNRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

J. Forbes

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We will gladly discuss any questions you have concerning this examination.

Sincerely,

***/RA/***

Roger D. Lanksbury, Chief  
Operations Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No. 50-263  
License No. DPR-22

Enclosures: 1. Operator Licensing Examination  
Report 50-263/02-301(DRS)  
2. Simulation Facility Report  
3. Written Examinations and Answer  
Keys (RO & SRO)

cc w/encl 1 & 2: J. Purkis, Plant Manager  
R. Anderson, Executive Vice President  
and Chief Nuclear Officer  
Nuclear Asset Manager  
Site Licensing Manager  
Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Health  
J. Silberg, Esquire  
Shaw, Pittman, Potts, and Trowbridge  
R. Nelson, President  
Minnesota Environmental Control Citizens  
Association (MECCA)  
Commissioner, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
D. Gruber, Auditor/Treasurer  
Wright County Government Center  
Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Commerce  
P. Marker, Office of Attorney General

cc w/encls 1, 2 & 3: W Cheever, General Supervisor, Operations Training

J. Forbes

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J. Purkis, Plant Manager  
 R. Anderson, Executive Vice President  
 and Chief Nuclear Officer  
 Nuclear Asset Manager  
 Site Licensing Manager  
 Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Health  
 J. Silberg, Esquire  
 Shaw, Pittman, Potts, and Trowbridge  
 R. Nelson, President  
 Minnesota Environmental Control Citizens  
 Association (MECCA)  
 Commissioner, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
 D. Gruber, Auditor/Treasurer  
 Wright County Government Center  
 Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Commerce  
 P. Marker, Office of Attorney General

cc w/encl 1, 2 & 3: W Cheever, General Supervisor, Operations Training

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U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION III

Docket No: 50-263  
License No: DPR-22

Report No: 50-263/02-301(DRS)

Licensee: Nuclear Management Company, LLC

Facility: Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant

Location: 2807 West Highway 75  
Monticello, MN 55362

Dates: October 14 through October 18, 2002

Examiners: D. McNeil, Reactor Engineer  
C. Phillips, Reactor Engineer

Approved by: Roger Lanksbury, Chief  
Operations Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

ER 05000263-02-301(DRS); Nuclear Management Company, LLC; on 10/14-18/02; Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant. Initial License Examination Report.

The announced operator licensing initial examination was conducted by regional USNRC examiners in accordance with the guidance of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 8, Supplement 1.

### Examination Summary:

- Two applicants passed all sections of their respective examinations and were issued applicable operator licenses. One Senior Reactor Operator applicant failed the written examination and was issued a proposed license denial letter (Section 4OA5.1).

## REPORT DETAILS

### 4. OTHER ACTIVITIES (OA)

#### 4OA5 Other

##### .1 Initial Licensing Examinations

###### a. Examination Scope

The USNRC examiners conducted an announced operator licensing initial examination during the week of October 14, 2002. The plant's training staff used the guidance established in NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 8, Supplement 1, to prepare the examination outline and to develop the written examination and operating test. The USNRC examiners administered the operating test during the weeks of October 14, 2002. Monticello Plant training staff members administered the written examination on October 18, 2002. One Reactor Operator and two Senior Reactor Operator applicants were examined.

###### b. Findings

###### Written Examination

The licensee developed the written examination. During the initial review of the examination, the examiners determined that the examination, as submitted by the licensee, was within the range of acceptability expected for a proposed examination. During examination validation the week of July 29, 2002, changes agreed upon between the USNRC and the licensee were incorporated according to the guidance contained in NUREG-1021.

The licensee graded the examination on October 18, 2002, and conducted a review of each question to determine accuracy and validity of the examination questions. The licensee had no post examination comments on the written examination.

###### Operating Test

The USNRC examiners determined that the operating test, as originally submitted by the licensee, was within the range of acceptability expected for a proposed examination. Examination changes made during the validation of the operating test were agreed upon between the USNRC and the licensee, and were made according to NUREG-1021.

###### Examination Results

One Reactor Operator applicant and two Senior Reactor Operator applicants were administered written examinations and operating tests for initial operator licensing. Two applicants passed all sections of their respective examinations and were issued applicable operator licenses. One Senior Reactor Operator applicant failed the written examination and was issued a proposed license denial letter. The applicant will have approximately 20 days to appeal the proposed denial.

.2 Examination Security

a. Examination Scope

The examiners reviewed and observed the licensee's implementation of examination security requirements during the examination preparation and administration.

b. Findings

The licensee's implementation of examination security requirements during examination preparation and administration were acceptable and met the guidelines provided in NUREG 1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." No violations of 10 CFR 55.49 occurred during the examination preparation and administration.

4OA6 Meetings

Exit Meeting

The chief examiner presented the examination team's preliminary observations and findings on October 18, 2002, to Mr. Forbes and other members of the Operations and Training Department staff. The chief examiner asked the licensee whether any materials examined during the inspection should be considered proprietary. No proprietary information was identified.



## KEY POINTS OF CONTACT

### Licensee

J. Forbes, Site Vice President  
G. Allex, Examination Developer  
W. Cheever, General Supervisor Operations Training  
J. Grubb, Operations Manager  
K. Markling, Control Room Supervisor  
J. Shriver, Principle Engineering Analyst - Simulator  
J. Windschill, Training Manager

### NRC

D. Kimble, Resident Inspector, Monticello Plant

## ITEMS OPENED, CLOSED AND DISCUSSED

### Opened

None

### Closed

None

### Discussed

None

## LIST OF ACRONYMS USED

ADAMS	Agency-Wide Document Access and Management System
DRS	Division of Reactor Safety
USNRC	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
PARS	Publicly Available Records
RO	Reactor Operator
SRO	Senior Reactor Operator

## LIST OF DOCUMENTS REVIEWED

None

SIMULATION FACILITY REPORT

Facility Licensee: Monticello Plant

Facility Docket No.: 50-263

Operating Tests Administered: October 14 - 17, 2002

The following documents observations made by the USNRC examination team during the initial operator license examination. These observations do not constitute audit or inspection findings and are not, without further verification and review, indicative of non-compliance with 10 CFR 55.45(b). These observations do not affect USNRC certification or approval of the simulation facility other than to provide information which may be used in future evaluations. No licensee action is required in response to these observations.

During the conduct of the simulator portion of the operating tests, the following items were observed:

ITEM	DESCRIPTION
None	

WRITTEN EXAMINATIONS AND ANSWER KEYS (RO/SRO)

RO/SRO Initial Examination ADAMS Accession # ML023180427