

March 21, 2003

Mr. David L. Wilson
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 - REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION (RAI) RELATED TO THE FOURTH 10-YEAR INTERVAL
INSERVICE TESTING (IST) PROGRAM (TAC NO. MB6807)

Dear Mr. Wilson:

Nuclear Management Company, LLC's letter of November 22, 2002, requested that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) authorize proposed alternatives associated with Monticello's fourth 10-year IST Program Plan. The NRC's staff is reviewing your relief requests and finds that additional information is needed as shown in the enclosed RAI.

The enclosed RAI was discussed with Mr. D. Neve of your organization on March 20, 2003. We agreed that your response will be submitted by April 7, 2003. Please contact me at (301) 415-1423 if you have questions or need to revise this date.

Sincerely,

/RA/

L. Mark Padovan, Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate III
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-263

Enclosure: Request for Additional Information

cc w/encl: See next page

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DATE	3/20/03	3/20/03	3/21/03

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Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant

cc:

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March 2002

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
RELATED TO RELIEF REQUESTS DATED NOVEMBER 22, 2002
NUCLEAR MANAGEMENT COMPANY, LLC
MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT
DOCKET NO. 50-263

On Page 2 of 6 of Attachment 5, of your November 22, 2002, Valve Relief Request No. VR-01, you requested alternative testing based on paragraph ISTC 4.5.4(c). This would allow valve testing to be performed in groups instead of each and every valve. You said that "All 121 check valves are identical in all essential respects and will be considered a single group for a similar sampling approach for exercise to the close position." ISTC 4.5.4(c) requires in part, the following:

- (1) Grouping of check vales shall consider valve manufacturer, size, material of construction, orientation, and maintenance and modification history.
- (2) At least one valve from each group shall be disassembled and examined at each refueling outage; all valves in each group shall be disassembled and examined at least once every 8 years.
- (3) The details and bases of the sampling program shall be documented and recorded in the test plan (see ISTC 6.2).

It is unclear how your single grouping of 121 check valves address these requirements.

Therefore, please provide 1) justification for the single grouping in view of the ISTC 4.5.4(c) requirements, or 2) provide the appropriate grouping of all the 121 check valves instead of one group of 121 valves with one valve testing every refueling outage.