

January 30, 2004

Mr. Thomas J. Palmisano
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 RELATED TO THE FIRE PROTECTION
EXEMPTION REQUEST FOR THE TORUS COMPARTMENT
(TAC NO. MC0751)

Dear Mr. Palmisano:

The Nuclear Management Company, LLC, letter of September 15, 2003, requested the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to authorize an exemption from the automatic fire suppression system requirements of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), Part 50, Appendix R, Section II.G.2.b. The NRC staff is reviewing your request and finds that additional information is needed as shown in the enclosed request for additional information (RAI).

I discussed the enclosed RAI with Mr. John Fields of your organization on January 29, 2004, and he agreed to respond by February 27, 2004. Please contact me at (301) 415-1423 if you have questions.

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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REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FIRE PROTECTION EXEMPTION REQUEST FOR THE TORUS

COMPARTMENT DATED SEPTEMBER 15, 2003

NUCLEAR MANAGEMENT COMPANY, LLC

MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT

DOCKET NO. 50-263

1. Division 1 level transmitter LT7338A and its cable are shown on Figure 2 of Nuclear Management Company, LLC's (NMC's), letter of September 15, 2003. A notation on Figure 1 in NMC's letter shows where the cable for LT7338A exits through the ceiling. The cable does not appear to extend to where the penetration is located. What is the correct depiction?
2. Figure 2 shows that Division 2 level transmitter LT7338B is connecting to the same conduit system downstream of Division 2 temperature element TE4075B, while Division 2 temperature elements TE4073B and TE4074B are shown as exiting the torus room at column lines L and 5.1. Is this an accurate representation? Note that the opening statement in Attachment 1, Section B, "Background," of NMC's letter of September 15, 2003, discusses the incorrect depiction of the Division II suppression pool level transmitter in your submittal of October 28, 1982.
3. For the suppression pool temperature monitoring system, discuss how the system automatically eliminates 1) a failed temperature element or 2) fire-induced failure of the cable to the temperature elements that is inside conduit (hot short, short to ground, open, or increased/decreased resistance or voltage).
4. Clarify the method which NMC used to measure distances, and provide a minimum distance or a tolerance for the separation of divisional equipment.
5. Clarify the total amount of transient combustibles and/or heat release rate expected for the torus area, as discussed in Attachment 1, Section C, Item 5.a., "Type, Configuration and Quantity of Combustibles," of your September 15, 2003, letter. Please include information pertaining to prestaging for outages (especially storage of scaffolding).

ENCLOSURE

Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant

cc:

Jonathan Rogoff, Esquire
Vice President, Counsel & Secretary
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October 2003