

April 28, 2004

Mr. Joseph M. Solymossy  
Site Vice President  
Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant  
Nuclear Management Company, LLC  
1717 Wakonade Drive East  
Welch, MN 55089

SUBJECT: PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2 -  
CLARIFICATION OF USE OF RELIEF REQUEST NOS. 16 AND 17 FOR  
THE THIRD 10-YEAR INTERVAL INSERVICE INSPECTION PROGRAM  
(TAC NOS. MB7976 AND MB7977)

Dear Mr. Solymossy:

In response to a request from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), during a conference call on October 22, 2003, the Nuclear Management Company, LLC (NMC), submitted a letter dated January 30, 2004, to the NRC regarding Relief Requests Nos. 16 and 17 (RR-16 and RR-17) for the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant (PINGP), Units 1 and 2. This letter clarified the manner in which NMC intends to implement RR-16 and RR-17 during the Third 10-Year Inservice Inspection (ISI) Interval.

The NRC approved RR-16 and RR-17 on August 13, 2003, authorizing NMC's proposed alternative to use VT-1 visual examinations in lieu of VT-3 visual examinations on bolting when leakage occurs at a bolted connection. VT-3 visual examinations are required by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers *Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code*, Section XI, paragraph IWA-5250(a)(2). The January 30, 2004, letter documented that NMC will use RR-16 and RR-17 in concert with Code Case N-566-1 which establishes criteria for an engineering evaluation of the bolting condition as an alternative to removal and visual examination of all bolting.

The NRC staff notes that using RR-16 and RR-17 with Code Case N-566-1 is acceptable for application in your ISI program, during the Third 10-Year ISI Interval. Please include this letter and your January 30, 2004, letter with our Safety Evaluation associated with the approval of RR-16 and RR-17.

If you have questions or comments, you can contact me at 301-415-4106.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Anthony C. McMurtray , Sr. Project Manager, Section 1,  
Project Directorate III  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-282 and 50-306

cc: See next page

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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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NRR-106

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Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant, Units 1 and 2

cc:

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November 2003