

June 15, 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 INTAKE STRUCTURE
APPENDIX R EXEMPTION REQUEST (TAC NO. MC1803)

Dear Mr. Palmisano:

The Nuclear Management Company, LLC, letter of November 17, 2003, requested the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to authorize a permanent exemption from the requirements of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), Part 50, Appendix R, Section III.G.2.b., as it applies to Fire Area IX/Fire Zone 23A at the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant. The NRC staff is reviewing your request and finds that the following additional information is needed:

1. Provide the design water density of the pre-action sprinkler system in the intake structure.
2. The Fire Hazards Analysis does not discuss sodium hypochlorite and other hazards that it may present at ambient conditions or when heated and decomposing. What effects would this chemical, or its residue, present when mixed with the combustibles (lubricating oil, non-Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers standard -383 cable, and transients) in the room? Hazardous materials are discussed in the NRC's Branch Technical Position (BTP) Auxiliary and Power Conversion Systems Branch (APCSB) 9.5.1, "Fire Protection System," Section G.3.
3. Define and quantify the transient combustibles in the fire area allowed by procedure(s).
4. Do the equipment shrouds around the residual heat removal service water and emergency service water pumps provide containment for leaking oil at the floor level? Are there dikes around other pumps to limit the spread of leaking oil? If not, what other features (such as floor drains) would limit the size of an oil spill?

T. Palmisano

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I discussed this request for additional information with Mr. John Fields of your organization on June 7, 2004, and he agreed to respond within 30 days of receipt of this letter. 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

cc: See next page

T. Palmisano

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Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant

cc:

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October 2003