

June 24, 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, UNIT 1 - WITHDRAWAL  
OF REQUEST FOR RELIEF FROM AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MECHANICAL  
ENGINEERS CODE SECTION III HYDROSTATIC TEST FOR UNIT 1  
REPLACEMENT STEAM GENERATORS (TAC NO. MC2442)

Dear Mr. Solymossy:

By letter dated June 7, 2004, the Nuclear Management Company, LLC (NMC), withdrew its request for relief from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Code Section III hydrostatic test requirements for the Unit 1 replacement steam generators, dated March 19, 2004.

In its submittal dated March 19, 2004, NMC stated that the ASME Section III hydrostatic test requirements would create a hardship or unusual difficulty without a compensating increase in the level of quality or safety. NMC requested relief pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 50, Section 50.55a(a)(3)(ii) due to the hardships associated with an over pressure hydrostatic test. In its request, the licensee cited certain precedents as similar logical examples, where secondary side hydrostatic pressure tests of replacement steam generators were not performed.

During a telephone conference with the NMC representatives, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff indicated that the licensee's application was not supported by an adequate safety basis. Moreover, the staff did not agree that the precedents cited in the application were a logical extension of the Code Cases. The NRC staff discussed various alternatives, which the licensee could pursue in lieu of the above test requirements. The licensee opted to withdraw this relief request.

The issuance of this letter completes our actions to close TAC No. MC2442.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Mahesh Chawla, Project Manager, Section 1  
Project Directorate III  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-282

cc: See next page

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DATE	06/22/04	06/21/04	06/22/04	06/24/04

Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant,  
Units 1 and 2

cc:

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November 2003