

April 20, 2005

Mr. T. Palmisano
Site Vice President
Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant
Nuclear Management Company, LLC
2807 West County Road 75
Monticello, MN 55362-9637

SUBJECT: OPERATOR LICENSING EXAMINATION APPROVAL

Dear Mr. Palmisano:

The purpose of this letter is to confirm the final arrangements for the upcoming operator licensing examinations at the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant.

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has completed its review of the operator license applications in connection with this examination and will separately provide a list of approved applicants to Ms. Shawn L. Halbert, Training Manager. Note that any examination waivers have been addressed in separate correspondence.

The NRC has approved the subject examinations and hereby authorizes you to administer the written examinations in accordance with Revision 9 of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," during the week of May 9, 2005. The NRC staff will administer the operating tests during the weeks of May 2 and May 9, 2005.

In accordance with your application letter (L-MT-05-032) dated April 15, 2005, the NRC understands that all of the license applicants have completed the SAT-based license training program. However, you indicated that the applicants have not yet completed training on the current revised plant configuration and/or processes implemented during your April 2005 plant outage. Your letter indicated that applicants who successfully pass the NRC operator license examination will be given additional training prior to the applicants receiving NRC operator licenses. After further review concerning the recent changes to the plant configuration and/or processes, the NRC determined that holding the issuance of operator licenses would not be necessary. In addition, we understand that the individuals who successfully pass the license examination will be immediately enrolled in the Monticello continuing (requalification) licensed operator training program and that they will be current and satisfactory in that program before they perform licensed duties.

Please contact Mr. Dell R. McNeil, at (630) 829-9737, if you have any questions or identify any errors or changes in the license level (RO or SRO) or type of examination (partial or complete written examination and/or operating test) specified for each applicant.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the Electronic Reading Room page of the NRC's public Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Hironori Peterson, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No. 50-263
License No. DPR-22

cc: J. Cowan, Executive Vice President
and Chief Nuclear Officer
Manager, Regulatory Affairs
J. Rogoff, Vice President, Counsel, and Secretary
Nuclear Asset Manager, Xcel Energy, Inc.
Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Health
R. Nelson, President
Minnesota Environmental Control Citizens
Association (MECCA)
Commissioner, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
D. Gruber, Auditor/Treasurer,
Wright County Government Center
Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Commerce
Manager - Environmental Protection Division
Minnesota Attorney General's Office
S. L. Halbert, Training Manager

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Manager, Regulatory Affairs
- J. Rogoff, Vice President, Counsel, and Secretary
Nuclear Asset Manager, Xcel Energy, Inc.
- Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Health
- R. Nelson, President
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Association (MECCA)
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- Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Commerce
- Manager - Environmental Protection Division
Minnesota Attorney General's Office
- S. L. Halbert, Training Manager

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