



CITY OF BUFFALO, MINNESOTA

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June 23, 2005

6/2/05
70FR 32381

Chief, Rules and Directives Branch
Division of Administration Services
Office of Administration
Mailstop T-6D59
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

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RULES AND DIRECTIVES
BRANCH
USNRC

ATTN: Federal Registrar June 2, 2005 Pg. 32381-32382

To whom it may concern,

I would like to recommend to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission that Xcel Energy be granted an operating license renewal for the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant.

Currently I work for the City of Buffalo and serve as the Utilities Director. The City of Buffalo is located about ten miles south of the Monticello Plant and on most days I can see the plant off on the northern Horizon.

Over its tenure of operation, I have had the opportunity to tour the facilities. On these occasions I have had conversations with the staff about Monticello's operations; plant safety; training and certification; and their employment in general. Generally, everyone was well trained and very professional.

In my twenty five years of utility experience I have experienced the evolution of electrical generation and energy marketing. Our quality of life is built upon having an adequate and economical supply of electricity for all of our communities. Regardless of if we receive our electric energy directly from this plant or not, we need the Monticello Nuclear generation plant to be a part of the base load supply grid for the growing needs of this area.

It is for these reasons, that I personally support the renewal of Xcel Energy request to extend the operating license of the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant's license to operate until 2030.

Sincerely,

Joseph O. Steffel
Utilities Director
City of Buffalo
Buffalo MN 55313

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All = S. Lee (SSL1)

SFSP Review Complete
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