

May 9, 2006

MEMORANDUM TO: Lakshminarasimh Raghavan, Chief
Plant Licensing Branch III-1
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Timothy J. Kobetz, Chief /RA/
Technical Specifications Branch
Division of Inspection and Regional Support
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT, OPERATED
BY NUCLEAR MANAGEMENT COMPANY (NMC), LLC
SAFETY EVALUATION FOR THE CONVERSION TO THE
IMPROVED TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS (TAC NO. MC7505)

The purpose of this memo is formally to transmit the Technical Specifications Branch's (TSB's) review and safety evaluation (SE) of the Monticello conversion to improved technical specifications (ITS) modeled after the Standard Technical Specifications (STS). The SE consists of a description of the conversion process, a discussion of items relocated outside of TS, a discussion of items formally classified as "Beyond Scope Issues," and a set of tables summarizing the acceptability of the conversion categorized by the type of change.

Beyond-scope items, which are items neither in the STS nor in the plant's current licensing bases and current technical specifications (CTS) were reviewed by other Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) branches using different TACs, and will be addressed by the appropriate technical branches in the final SE to be issued with the above license amendments.

The ITS changes were categorized according to whether the changes were administrative, more restrictive, less restrictive, removed details, or relocated specifications. These changes are described in the Discussion of Change (DOC) Tables attached to this SE. Because a CTS to ITS conversion is voluminous, the tables only summarize the changes. The actual changes described in the application, including those generated by the questions and answers (Q&As) posted on the Monticello ITS database, were reviewed by the NRC staff and found to be acceptable.

The TSB has been working closely with the Plant Licensing Branch to make the review and final product more efficient. The SE being transmitted with this memo was developed with the assigned project manager. The DOC Table has already been peer-reviewed

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(see ADAMS Accession Nos. ML060950046 and ML061020049) by projects. In addition, the remainder of the SE was developed by the Plant Licensing Branch based on recently-approved ITS conversions.

Furthermore, to improve efficiency, on April 7, 2006, NMC was provided with a draft SE (ADAMS Accession No. ML060950548), including the SE tables, and NMC provided their comments for the NRC's consideration.

This completes our efforts on TAC Numbers MC7505.

Docket No.: 50-263

Enclosure:
Safety Evaluation

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Enclosure:
Safety Evaluation

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ADAMS ACCESSION NUMBER: ML061240556, Enclosure: ML061240542

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