

September 19, 2006

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

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE FINAL PLANT-SPECIFIC
SUPPLEMENT 26 TO THE GENERIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
STATEMENT FOR LICENSE RENEWAL OF NUCLEAR PLANTS
REGARDING MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT
(TAC NO. MC6441)

Dear Mr. Conway:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has completed the final plant-specific Supplement 26 to NUREG-1437, "Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants," regarding the renewal of operating license DPR-22 for an additional 20 years of operation for the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant. Enclosed is a copy of the final supplement and the associated *Federal Register* Notice of Availability. This notice advises the public that the final supplement is publicly available at the NRC Public Document Room or from the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC website at <http://www/nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams/web-based.html>. The accession number for the final Supplement 26 to the GEIS is ML062490078. In addition, the Monticello Public Library (220 West 6th Street, Monticello, Minnesota 55362) and the Buffalo Public Library (18 Northwest Lake Boulevard, Buffalo, Minnesota 55313) have agreed to make the final supplement available for public inspection.

As discussed in Section 9.3 of the final supplement, the staff recommends that the Commission determine that the adverse environmental impacts of license renewal for the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant are not so great that preserving the option of license renewal for energy planning decision makers would be unreasonable. This recommendation is based on: (1) the analysis and findings in the GEIS; (2) the Environmental Report submitted by Nuclear Management Company, LLC; (3) consultation with Federal, State, and local agencies; (4) the staff's own independent review; and (5) the staff's consideration of public comments.

J. Conway

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A separate notice of filing of the final supplemental environmental impact statement will be placed in the *Federal Register* through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact the NRC Environmental Project Manager, Ms. Jennifer A. Davis, at 301-415-3835 or by e-mail at jxd10@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Rani L. Franovich, Branch Chief
Environmental Branch B
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-263

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/encl: See next page

J. Conway

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ADAMS Accession Nos.:

1. Letter w/Svc List, FRN: **ML062620386**
2. "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants, Supplement 26": **ML062490078**
3. Pkg: **ML062620395**

Document name: E:\Filenet\ML062620386.wpd

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

NUCLEAR MANAGEMENT COMPANY, LLC

MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT

DOCKET NO. 50-263

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE FINAL SUPPLEMENT 26 TO THE GENERIC
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR LICENSE RENEWAL OF NUCLEAR PLANTS,
REGARDING THE LICENSE RENEWAL OF MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT

Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC, Commission) has published a final plant-specific supplement to the Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants (GEIS), NUREG-1437, regarding the renewal of operating license DPR-22 for an additional 20 years of operation for the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant (Monticello). Monticello is located on the southern bank of the Mississippi River in the City of Monticello, Wright County, Minnesota, approximately 30 miles northwest of Minneapolis, Minnesota. Possible alternatives to the proposed action (license renewal) include no action and reasonable alternative energy sources.

As discussed in Section 9.3 of the final Supplement 26, based on: (1) the analysis and findings in the GEIS; (2) the Environmental Report submitted by Nuclear Management Company, LLC; (3) consultation with Federal, State, and local agencies; (4) the staff's own independent review; and (5) the staff's consideration of public comments, the recommendation of the staff is that the Commission determine that the adverse environmental impacts of license renewal for Monticello are not so great that preserving the option of license renewal for energy-planning decision makers would be unreasonable.

The final Supplement 26 to the GEIS is publicly available at the NRC Public Document Room (PDR), located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland, 20852, or from the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). The ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room is accessible at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams/web-based.html>. The accession number for the final Supplement 26 to the GEIS is ML062490078. Persons who do not have access to ADAMS, or who encounter problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, should contact the NRC's PDR Reference staff by telephone at 1-800-397-4209, or 301-415-4737, or by e-mail at pdr@nrc.gov. In addition, the Monticello Public Library (220 West 6th Street, Monticello, Minnesota 55362) and the Buffalo Public Library (18 Northwest Lake Boulevard, Buffalo, Minnesota 55313), have agreed to make the final supplement available for public inspection.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Ms. Jennifer A. Davis, Environmental Branch B, Division of License Renewal, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Mail Stop O-11F1, Washington, D.C., 20555-0001. Ms. Davis may be contacted at 1-800-368-5642, extension 3835 or via e-mail at jxd10@nrc.gov.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 19th day of September, 2006.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

/RA/

Rani L. Franovich, Branch Chief
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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Letter to J. Conway from R. Franovich, dated: September 19, 2006

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