



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4005

January 18, 2007

Charles R. Bomberger
General Manager, Nuclear Asset Manager
Northern States Power Company
DBA Xcel Energy
Minneapolis, MN 55401-1993

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO NRC INSPECTION REPORT 030-05004/06-001

Dear Mr. Bomberger:

Thank you for your letter dated December 15, 2006, in response to our November 27, 2006, NRC Inspection Report 030-05004/06-001. The report documents an inspection that was conducted on October 2-5, 2006, at the former Pathfinder Generating Station in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. The inspection included a review of the implementation of the NRC-approved final status survey plan and the performance of an NRC confirmatory survey to verify if the facility could be released without restriction.

The NRC identified two Unresolved Items during the inspection. The first Item involved aspects of the final status survey program which were not implemented in accordance with the requirements of the Decommissioning Plan. The second Item involved your response to the NRC's discovery of two discrete locations where elevated radioactivity were identified during the confirmatory survey of the hotwell.

The cover letter to the NRC Inspection Report requested that you provide us with additional information on these two unresolved issues including any corrective actions needed or taken, within 30 days of the date of the Report. By letter dated December 15, 2006, you provided a response to each of the two Unresolved Items. We have reviewed your reply and find it responsive to the concerns raised in our NRC Inspection Report. We will review the implementation of your written response, as appropriate, during any future inspections and during NRC review of the completed final status survey report. No additional information is requested for the two Unresolved Items and no response to this letter is required.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosure, and your response (if any) will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the NRC's document system (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To the extent possible, your response should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be made available to the Public without redaction.

Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact the undersigned at (817) 860-8191 or Mr. Robert J. Evans, Senior Health Physicist, at (817) 860-8234.

Sincerely,

/RA/

D. Blair Spitzberg, Ph.D., Chief
Fuel Cycle and Decommissioning Branch

Docket No.: 030-05004
License No.: 22-08799-02

cc w/licensee letter dated 12/15/06:
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RITS Coordinator

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RIV Nuclear Materials File - 5th Floor

SUNSI Review Completed: RJE ADAMS: ☒ Yes ☐ No Initials: RJE

☒ Publicly Available ☐ Non-Publicly Available ☐ Sensitive ☒ Non-Sensitive

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