



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

November 23, 2009

Mr. Timothy J. O'Connor
Site Vice President
Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant
Northern States Power Company - Minnesota (NSPM)
2807 West County Road 75
Monticello, MN 55362-9637

SUBJECT: MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT – LINKING OF THE
PROPOSED EXTENDED POWER UPRATE AMENDMENT AND THE MELLLA+
AMENDMENT (TAC NOS. MD9990 AND ME2449)

Dear Mr. O'Connor:

I am responding to your letter of October 28, 2009 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML093030035), in which you requested “concurrent review of the Maximum Extended Load Line Limit Analysis Plus (MELLLA+) license amendment request (LAR) while the Extended Power Uprate (EPU) LAR is still under review.” The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff reviewed your letter, and held a conference call with your staff on November 13, 2009. The NRC staff found that the justification set forth in your October 28, 2009, letter, regarding “linking” of the MELLLA+ amendment to the EPU amendment satisfied the criteria for “rare circumstances” stated in Office Instruction LIC-109, “Acceptance Review Procedures,” Rev. 1. Accordingly, you may submit the application for the MELLLA+ amendment while the EPU amendment review is still ongoing.

In order to ensure smooth review of the MELLLA+ amendment, I urge you to work closely with the NRC staff through your project manager (Mr. Peter Tam, 301-415-1451) to resolve as many issues as possible before submittal of the application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph G. Giitter".

Joseph G. Giitter, Director
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-263

cc: Distribution via Listserv

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/RA/

Joseph G. Giitter, Director
 Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
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NRR-106

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