

50-263

AUG 21 1971

Mr. Robert F. Class, Commander  
St. Anthony Park Post No. 34  
The American Legion  
2029 Juliet Avenue  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55105

H.C.P.P.

Dear Mr. Class:

I am pleased to reply to your letter to Chairman Seaborg dated June 25, 1970, in which you enclosed a resolution concerning the preservation of the Minneapolis-St. Paul area air and water resources.

Each application to construct and to operate a nuclear power plant is subjected to the extensive licensing process described in the enclosed booklet, "Licensing of Power Reactors." This includes a thorough review by the AEC's regulatory staff and by the independent Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS). After reviewing the application of the Northern States Power Company for the Monticello plant, the regulatory staff and the ACRS have concluded that there is reasonable assurance that the plant can be operated without undue risk to the health and safety of the public.

I am enclosing a copy of the regulatory staff's public safety evaluation of the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant, prepared prior to the public hearing on the facility's operating license application, which contains a number of consultant reports including the report of the ACRS. The evaluation addresses all of the points that were raised in the resolution you sent except that relating to the authority of the State of Minnesota, through the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, to set radioactive discharge limits more restrictive than the standards set by the AEC. This matter is presently the subject of litigation between the Northern States Power Company and the State. You will note that section 3.7 of the report (pages 32-42) describes our evaluation of the liquid and gaseous radioactive waste system and our conclusions, and sections 4 and 5 (pages 43-50) analyze the radiological consequences from a design basis accident and discuss emergency planning. As the report indicates, the protection of the St. Paul and Minneapolis water systems, even in the unlikely event of an accident at the plant, was considered in our safety evaluation.

Public hearings before an Atomic Safety and Licensing Board to consider Northern States' application for an operating license for the Monticello plant were held in April, May, June and August 1970. After the public hearings are concluded, the Board will issue an initial decision based on the evidence presented at the hearing. The AEC will authorize operation

*d*

SURNAME ▶

DATE ▶

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Form AEC-318 (Rev. 9-53)

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1969-O-364-598

of the facility only upon a favorable decision in this proceeding and in accordance with any limitations found necessary or appropriate. If the plant is licensed to operate, it will be subject to AEC inspection and surveillance throughout its lifetime.

With respect to the radioactive effluents released by nuclear power plants, I am enclosing a print of Part 1 of the hearings on the environmental effects of producing electric power held by the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy in late 1969 and early 1970. I would call your attention especially to testimony by Commissioner Theos J. Thompson (pages 175-194), Commissioner Clarence E. Larson (pages 238-276), and Dr. Paul Tompkins, Executive Director of the Federal Radiation Council (pages 391-415). This testimony discusses in detail sources of radioactive effluents from a nuclear power plant and how these effluents are processed, the bases for radiation protection standards, how these standards are applied as limits on normal releases of small quantities of radioactive material, the results of environmental monitoring programs around nuclear power plants, and environmental research programs on the effects of radiation that are carried out by the AEC.

In summary, operating experience has shown that actual releases of radioactivity from these plants have generally been small percentages of limits imposed under AEC regulations. Based on our present knowledge and operating experience, we do not believe that the low levels of radioactivity released from nuclear power reactors will have a perceptible adverse effect on the environment or on public health and safety.

For your information, I also am enclosing copies of speeches made by Commissioners Larson, Ramey, and Thompson during the past year concerning the licensing and regulation of nuclear power plants. These remarks discuss the AEC's concern for public health and safety in its regulatory activities, and describe some of the studies and the experience that confirm our confidence in the safety of nuclear power plants licensed by the AEC.

Sincerely,

(signed) Harold L. Price

Harold L. Price  
Director of Regulation

*This letter approved by  
Chris E. Epperson  
in only absence  
Harb*

Enclosures:

1. Licensing of Power Reactors
2. Safety Evaluation of Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant

(SEE ATTACHED DISTRIBUTION)

CRESS OFFICE	DR/RL:PWR-1	RL:PWR	RL	OGC	DR
T32, R11, 12	JM Felton/DMuller	DeYoung	Morris	Price	Price
dlp SURNAME					
DATE	8/4/70	8/ /70	8/ /70	8/10/70	8/20/70

DISTRIBUTION:

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JMFelton  
PDR (50-263)  
Docket File  
DR Reading  
PWR-1 Reading  
PAMorris  
RCDeYoung  
RSBoyd  
DBVassallo  
HKShapar  
NMBlunt  
Gertter (DR-2687)

Speeches enclosed:

Ramey - Minnesota, Oct. 11, 1969  
Thompson - Wakefield, Mass. Jan 21, 1970  
Larson - Los Alamos, Oct. 28, 1969

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SURNAME ▶						
DATE ▶						

Mr. Robert F. Class, Commander  
St. Anthony Park Post No. 34  
The American Legion  
2029 Juliet Avenue  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55105

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DATE ▶					

Docket No. 50-263

Mr. Robert F. Class  
2029 Juliet Avenue  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55105

Dear Mr. Class:

I am pleased to reply to your letter to Chairman Seaborg dated June 25, 1970, in which you enclosed a resolution concerning the preservation of the Minneapolis-St. Paul area air and water resources.

A public hearing conducted by an Atomic Safety and Licensing Board designated by the Atomic Energy Commission has been considering the Northern States Power Company's application for an operating license for its Monticello facility. This hearing was in session on April 28-May 1 and June 15-18, 1970, and is scheduled to reconvene in the United States Federal Courthouse at St. Paul, Minnesota, on August 5, 1970 to receive further evidence. Upon completion of this proceeding the Board will make the initial determination as to whether a license may be issued. This determination is then subject to review by an Atomic Safety and Licensing Appeal Board which will take into consideration in reaching a final decision any exceptions to the initial determination of the Board which may be filed by the parties to the hearing.

The principal evidence presented at the hearing by the Commission's Regulatory Staff has been a Safety Evaluation of the design and proposed operation of the Monticello facility. This evaluation addresses all of the points that you raise in your resolution except that relating to the authority of the State of Minnesota, through the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, to set radioactive

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DATE ▶						

Mr. Robert F. Class

- 2 -

discharge limits more restrictive than the standards set by the AEC. This matter is presently the subject of litigation between the Northern States Power Company and the State.

I am enclosing a copy of our Safety Evaluation for consideration in your studies of the environmental effects of operation of the Monticello facility.

Sincerely,

Harold L. Price  
Director of Regulation

Enclosure:  
Safety Evaluation

Distribution:  
AEC Pub. Doc. Room  
Docket File  
DR Reading  
DRL Reading  
PWR-1 Reading  
H. L. Price  
P. A. Morris  
R. C. DeYoung  
R. S. Boyd  
D. B. Vassallo  
OGC  
H. K. Shapar  
G. Ertter (Dr. Control 2687)  
N. M. Blunt

Changed by OGC.

OFFICE ▶	RL:PWR-1	RL:PWR	RL	OGC	DR	
SURNAME ▶	x7411 Muller:lm	DeYoung	Morris	(OGC)	Price	
DATE ▶	7/21/70	7/21/70	7/23/70	7/ /70	7/ /70	

Docket No. 50-263

Mr. Robert F. Class  
2029 Juliet Avenue  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55105

Dear Mr. Class:

I am pleased to reply to your letter to Chairman Seaborg dated June 25, 1970, in which you enclosed a resolution concerning the preservation of the Minneapolis-St. Paul area air and water resources.

A public hearing conducted by an Atomic Safety and Licensing Board has been considering the Northern States Power Company's application for an operating license for its Monticello facility. This hearing was in session on April 28-May 1 and June 15-18, 1970, and is scheduled to reconvene on August 4, 1970 to receive further evidence. Upon completion of this proceeding the Board will issue an initial decision based on the evidence presented at the hearing. The Commission will authorize operation of the facility only upon a favorable decision by the Board and in accordance with any limitations which may be set forth in the decision.

The principal evidence presented at the hearing by the Commission's Regulatory Staff has been a Safety Evaluation of the design proposed operation of the Monticello plant. This evaluation addresses all of the points that you raise in your resolution except that relating to the authority of the State of Minnesota, through the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, to set radioactive discharge limits more restrictive

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SURNAME ▶					
DATE ▶					

Mr. Robert F. Class

than the standards set by the AEC. The Northern States Power Company has brought a lawsuit against the State in this matter, and this question will be considered by a State Court.

I am enclosing a copy of our Safety Evaluation for consideration in your studies of the environmental effects of operation of the Monticello facility.

Sincerely,

Harold L. Price  
Director of Regulation

Enclosure:  
Safety Evaluation

Distribution:  
AEC Pub. Doc. Room  
Docket File  
DR Reading  
DRL Reading  
PWR-1 Reading  
H. L. Price  
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R. C. DeYoung  
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H. K. Shapar  
G. Ertter (Dr. Control 2687)  
N. M. Blunt

OFFICE ▶	RL:PWR-1	RL:PWR	RL	OGC	DR	
SURNAME ▶	Muller:lm	DeYoung	Morris		Price	
DATE ▶	7/17/70	7/17/70	7/ /70	7/ /70	7/ /70	

August 6, 1970

Note for Mr. Price

This letter to Robert Class, The American Legion, has been rewritten after discussion with Commissioners Larson, Thompson, and Ramey at the last TROIKA meeting. I think Commissioner Larson is particularly interested in this and they suggested that copies be sent to each of them separately rather than taken up again as a group.

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Accordingly, I have prepared the following transmittal note to the three Commissioners attaching a copy of the letter to Mr. Class.

C. L. Henderson

AUG 6 1970

*add "(ACR)" in 2nd para.  
add Ramey's Minnesota speech  
(already included)*

8/17  
Commissioner Ramey  
Commissioner Thompson - *ok 8/17*  
Commissioner Larson - *ok 8/17*

PROPOSED REPLY TO MR. ROBERT F. CLASS

Enclosed is a copy of a proposed reply to Mr. Robert F. Class, Commander, St. Anthony Park Post No. 34, The American Legion, St. Paul, Minnesota, which we discussed at the last meeting of the Commissioners' Environmental Group. The letter has been revised in accordance with the changes suggested at that time, and I would appreciate it if you would let me know if you have any further corrections. I will call your office early next week.

Signed CLH

C. L. Henderson  
Assistant Director of Regulation  
for Administration

Enclosure:  
Proposed ltr to Mr. Class

cc: Chairman Seaborg (2)  
Commissioner Johnson

bcc: CLHenderson  
JMFelton  
DR Reading  
Gertter (DR-2687)

OFFICE ▶	DR	ADIR:ADM:DR			
SURNAME ▶	JMFelton:jd	CLHenderson			
DATE ▶	8/6/70	8/6/70			

FROM

CONTROL NUMBER

ACTION COMPLETION DEADLINE

St. Paul, Miss  
Robert F. Case

DATE OF DOCUMENT

6/25/70

FILE LOCATION

TO

Chairman

ACTION PROCESSING DATES

Acknowledged \_\_\_\_\_

Interim Report 3/21/70

Final 6/25/70

INFORMATIONAL COPY DISTRIBUTION

\_\_\_\_ Chairman    \_\_\_\_ ADNS    \_\_\_\_ COM

\_\_\_\_ GM    \_\_\_\_ ADA    \_\_\_\_ SS

\_\_\_\_ Dep. Dir.    \_\_\_\_ OGC    \_\_\_\_ SLR

\_\_\_\_ A. D.    \_\_\_\_ RL    \_\_\_\_ ML

DESCRIPTION

Ltr

Original

Copy

Other

Encl. of resolution that MPCA require NEP Co. to ship all radioactive wastes off site & that the plant be required to operate with a zero radioactive discharge permit and that no permits be issued that would allow discharge of radioactive gases into the environment.

REMARKS

Is notification to the JCAR recommended? \_\_\_\_\_

REFERRED TO

DATE

Morris E/prep draft  
reply

7/16/70

Cy: Shaper

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

TO: DR\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ For appropriate handling

\_\_\_\_ Reply for Chairman's signature

For information: GM  Commissioners  DR

Remarks \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Julius H. Rubin  
For the Chairman

Mr. Price - for signature

This letter has been concurred in by the  
Commissioners' Environmental Group.

Jeanne  
8/18

8/7/70

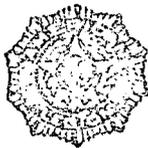
Unit

Mr. Henderson

would like you to  
read this as soon as  
possible so he can get  
to the Comrs. Today.

W  
H  
8/7/70

# THE AMERICAN LEGION



Robert F. Class  
2029 Juliet Avenue  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55105

ST. ANTHONY PARK POST No. 34

June 25, 1970

Mr. Glen Seaborg, Chairman  
United States Atomic Energy Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20545

Dear Mr. Seaborg:

We members of the American Legion who have fought for our country in several wars, are now concerned with the quality of our environment.

In order that we may be able to pass to future generations a good environmental inheritance, we have placed our faith and pledged our help to our nation in this time of environmental crisis.

We bring to your attention the enclosed Resolution, which was unanimously passed by our Legion Post on June 1, 1970, and by the American Legion Fourth District Convention on June 12, 1970.

We need your help, Mr. Seaborg.

Sincerely,

*Robert F. Class*

Robert F. Class  
Commander

DFC/kp

Rec'd Off. Dir. of Reg.  
Date 6/30/70  
Time 11:10

DR-2687

AMERICAN LEGION  
SAINT ANTHONY PARK POST #34

Resolution for the preservation of St. Paul-Minneapolis Metropolitan Area water supplies and air resources.

Whereas, the St. Paul and Minneapolis water supplies is being threatened by the contemplated discharges of radioactive wastes into the Mississippi River by the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant above the water intakes of both cities and,

Whereas, the air supplies for the metropolitan area is being threatened by the contemplated injection into atmosphere of tremendous quantities of radioactive wastes by the Monticello Nuclear Plant and,

~~Whereas, the integrity of the metropolitan area water supplies will be endangered and in the event of an accident by the Monticello Nuclear Plant probably destroyed and,~~

Whereas, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency can require the NSP Company, the operator of the plant, to operate the plant with zero discharges of radioactive wastes to the air and water and to require the NSP to dispose of all solid, liquid and gaseous radioactive wastes by off site shipment and,

Whereas, the health and safety of the metropolitan population are endangered along with the integrity of the water supplies and air resources and,

Whereas, the American Legion believes in the rights of man to a clean air and water environment and to the health and safety and,

Whereas, the American Legion inculcates a sense of obligation to the state, the nation and to the environment and,

Whereas, the American Legion and the American Legion pollution elimination objectives is to safeguard the genetic pool and preserve our posterity, Now, Therefore Be It,

Resolved by St. Anthony Park Post #34, in monthly meeting assembled that our objective is to have the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency require the NSP Company to ship all radioactive wastes, off site and that the plant be required to operate with a zero radioactive discharge permit, and Be It

Further Resolved that under no circumstances will permits of any type be issued to NSP that would allow the discharge of radioactive gaseous, liquid or solid wastes into the environment and Be It

Finally Resolved that copies of this resolution be sent to the Governor of our state, to our congressman, our U. S. Senators, to our state senator and representatives to the United States Atomic Energy Commission and to the President and to his Scientific Advisor and to the communication media.

111

RECEIVED

1970 JUN 30 AM 10 23

U.S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMM.  
MAIL & RECORDS SECTION

