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224-1364

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Re: In the Matter of Northern States Power Company  
Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant, Unit 1  
Docket No. 50-263

Gentlemen:

On June 19, 1970, Mr. Earl Ewald, Chairman of NSP, sent a letter to Dr. Glenn T. Seaborg. It was a five page letter, essentially consisting of complaints as to the nature of the AEC proceedings concerning the Monticello Plant.

It was interesting to note that MECCA did not obtain a copy of this letter in the usual manner with an Affidavit of Mailing attached, but rather received it as an AEC document. NSP is ably represented by Washington counsel, Mr. Gerald Charnoff, a local Minneapolis law firm, as well as house counsel. Any of these attorneys could have informed Mr. Ewald that it was necessary to send copies of communications to all parties.

There is no doubt, on the basis of this letter, that Mr. Ewald was trying to put pressure on the AEC to affect the outcome of the Quasi-Judicial proceeding now pending in this matter. The letter is replete with threats of the things which will happen if NSP is not immediately given its own way. It attacks the three physics graduate students, the MECCA lawyers or anyone else who questions NSP.

When NSP first applied to build a plant at Monticello, it accepted all of the rules and regulations of the AEC. The present hearings, along with the intervention, are a part and parcel of that proceeding. It is paradoxical that on one hand, NSP is suing the State of Minnesota in defense of the AEC, but on the other hand, when those AEC rules conflict with NSP's wishes, they too become the object of NSP's scorn.

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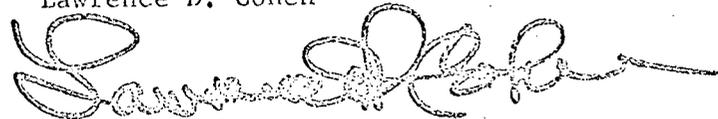
MECCA is confident that the threats contained in Mr. Ewald's letter will have no effect on the outcome of any of this Board's decisions. If Mr. Ewald does not realize that this is a Quasi-Judicial proceeding, MECCA does. NSP has consistently attempted to bring undo pressures on this Board in Mr. Ewald's letter and otherwise by trying to place the burden of any of our electrical shortages upon this Board. Such is simply not the case. The Monticello plant has suffered from labor problems and is, at this present time, in the throes of a serious strike which has virtually shut down construction. The plant is not complete and under no set of circumstances could it be operational.

MECCA believes that your Board should make it absolutely clear that Mr. Ewald's letter to Dr. Seaborg can and will have no effect on the outcome of these proceedings. It would not hurt to clarify that your Board is independent from any other aspects of the Atomic Energy Commission and once licensing proceedings are commenced, cannot be affected by any other branch of the AEC.

Yours very truly,

MECCA

Lawrence D. Cohen



William J. Hennessy

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