



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION III
799 ROOSEVELT ROAD
GLEN ELLYN, ILLINOIS 60137

CENTRAL FILES

AUG 15 1978

Docket No. 50-263

Northern States Power Company
ATTN: Mr. Leo Wachter
Vice President
Power Production and
System Operation
414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55401

Gentlemen:

This refers to the inspection conducted by Mr. J. E. Menning of this office on July 31 - August 2, 1978, of activities at Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant authorized by NRC Operating License No. DPR-22 and to the discussion of our findings with Mr. Eliason following the inspection.

The enclosed copy of our inspection report identifies areas examined during the inspection. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of a selective examination of procedures and representative records, observations, and interviews with personnel.

No items of noncompliance with NRC requirements were identified during the course of this inspection.

In accordance with Section 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, a copy of this letter and the enclosed inspection report will be placed in the NRC's Public Document Room, except as follows. If this report contains information that you or your contractors believe to be proprietary, you must apply in writing to this office, within twenty days of your receipt of this letter, to withhold such information from public disclosure. The application must include a full statement of the reasons for which the information is considered proprietary, and should be prepared so that proprietary information identified in the application is contained in an enclosure to the application.

cup

Northern States Power
Company

- 2 -

AUG 15 1978

We will gladly discuss any questions you have concerning this inspection.

Sincerely,

Gaston Fiorelli, Chief
Reactor Operations and
Nuclear Support Branch

Enclosure: IE Inspection
Rpt. No. 50-263/78-11

cc w/encis:

Mr. L. R. Eliason, Plant
Manager

J. W. Ferman, Ph.D., Nuclear
Engineer, MPCA

✓ Central Files

Reproduction Unit NRC 20b

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DATE	8/10/78	8/10/78	8/10/78	8/10/78		

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT

REGION III

Report No. 50-263/78-11

Docket No. 50-263

License No. DPR-22

Licensee: Northern States Power Company
414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55401

Facility Name: Monticello

Inspection At: Monticello, MN

Inspection Conducted: July 31 - August 2, 1978

Inspectors: *J. E. Menning*
J. E. Menning

8/10/78

Approved By: *W. S. Little*
W. S. Little, Chief
Nuclear Support Section 2

8/14/78

Inspection Summary

Inspection on July 31 - August 2, 1978 (Report No. 50-263/78-11)

Areas Inspected: Routine, unannounced inspection of plant operations.
The inspection involved 15 inspector-hours onsite by one NRC inspector.

Results: No items of noncompliance or deviations were identified.

DETAILS

1. Personnel Contacted

- *L. Eliason, Plant Manager
- *M. Clarity, Superintendent Plant Engineering and Radiation Protection
- F. Fey, Superintendent of Radiation Protection
- S. Pearson, Superintendent of Operations
- J. Peterson, Radiation Protection Coordinator - Chemistry

The inspector also interviewed several other licensee employees, including operations personnel.

*Denotes those attending exit interview.

2. Review of Plant Operations

The inspector conducted a review of plant operations to ascertain whether facility operation was in conformance with technical specifications, regulatory requirements, administrative procedures, or other commitments.

The inspector reviewed the following operating records:

- a. Hourly control room log sheets and reactor building log sheets for the month of June, 1978.
- b. The Operator's Daily Log and Shift Supervisor's Log for the period July 1-21, 1978.
- c. The Night Orders Log for the period of June, 1978.
- d. The active section of the Jumper and Bypass Log.

The inspector conducted a tour of the control room and other accessible plant areas to observe instrumentation; radiation, fire prevention, and equipment tagging controls; housekeeping; and the status of selected plant systems and equipment.

During the control room tour on August 1, 1978, the inspector observed that the inlet conductivity pen on the cleanup system conductivity recorder was indicating full upscale (10 umho/cm). Plant startup was in progress at this time. Chemistry personnel had taken water samples throughout the plant which confirmed the

high conductivity indication and revealed that reactor water conductivity had reached a maximum value of 13 umho/cm. Prior to leaving the control room, the inspector observed that reactor water conductivity (as indicated by the cleanup system conductivity recorder) was approximately 8 umho/cm and decreasing. Chemistry personnel related in subsequent discussions that the increase in conductivity was probably caused by a main condensor tube leak and that confirmatory analyses would be performed. During the exit interview on August 3, 1978, licensee personnel indicated that this event would be reported and reviewed as a Significant Operating Event.

No items of noncompliance or deviations were identified.

3. Exit Interview

Following the inspection on August 3, 1978, the inspector conducted an exit interview via telephone with licensee representatives (denoted in Paragraph 1) and summarized the scope and findings of the inspection.