

FROM: Northern States Power Co. Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401 L. O. Mayer	DATE OF DOC 5-10-74	DATE REC'D 5-16-74	LTR X	MEMO	RPT	OTHER
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TO: D. J. Skovholt	ORIG 1 signed	CC	OTHER	SENT AEC PDR X	SENT LOCAL PDR X
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CLASS	UNCLASS XXX	PROP INFO	INPUT	NO CYS REC'D 40	DOCKET NO: 50-263
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DESCRIPTION:
Ltr re our 4-1-74 ltr, trans the following:

ACKNOWLEDGED

PLANT NAME: Monticello

ENCLOSURES:
REPORT: Control Rod Blade Inspection and Evaluation
see jacket

DO NOT REMOVE

(40 cys rec'd)

FOR ACTION/INFORMATION 5-14-74 GC

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| | 1-B & M SWINEBROAD, Rm E-201 GT | |

25

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE COMPANY

RESOLVED

THAT

BE IT RESOLVED

AND

IT IS

THE

ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THIS 15th DAY OF MARCH 1954

WITNESSED MY HAND AND SEAL

THIS 15th DAY OF MARCH 1954

(Signature)

(Signature)

SECRETARY

BY

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

May 10, 1974

Mr. D J Skovholt
Assistant Director for Operating Reactors
Directorate of Licensing
Office of Regulation
U S Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, DC 20545

Dear Mr. Skovholt:

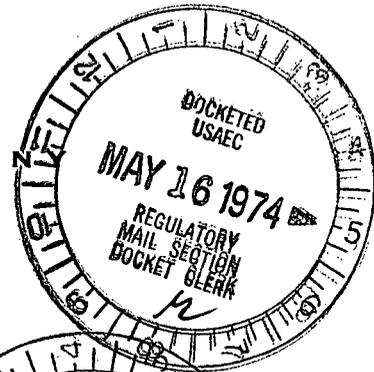
MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT
Docket No. 50-263 License No. DPR-22

Inverted Poison Tubes in Control Blades

Your April 1, 1974 letter asked that we meet certain conditions until inspection of all control blades in the Monticello reactor is completed. The reactor was shut down on March 14, 1974 for the annual refueling outage. A 100% eddy current inspection of all control blades in the core was included in the outage activities. The test was performed under the direction of General Electric; their report of the test results is attached.

Two corrections should be made to page 8 of the report. The "core position" in item 3 should be 10-19 rather than 10-17. Also, the third sentence on the page should be changed to read, "Since the maximum number of inverted absorber tubes remaining in any given blade is three (position 42-15), or approximately 4% of the total of 84, the effect on an adjacent rod is negligible."

As a result of the test, six control blades were replaced; in addition, certain blades which remain in the core were identified as having one or more inverted poison tubes. We have no plans for prematurely replacing the latter blades. Calculations show that should the poison powder reach its maximum compaction, the effect on the shutdown margin of the core would be 0.04% Δk . Until these blades are replaced or relocated to reduce this effect, we will include an additional 0.04% Δk



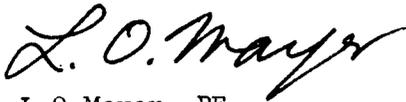
NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY

Mr. D J Skovholt
May 10, 1974
Page 2

for potential compaction in demonstrating the $R + 0.25\% \Delta k$ shutdown margin required by Technical Specification 4.3.A.1. The value of R for Cycle 3, prior to including the $0.04\% \Delta k$ allowance for potential compaction, was calculated to be 0 as reported in our November 19, 1973 Second Reload Submittal.

We conclude that the inverted absorber tubes remaining in the reactor should have no measurable effect in either steady state or transient operations.

Yours very truly,



L O Mayer, PE
Director of Nuclear Support Services

LOM/MHV/lh

cc: J G Keppler
G Charnoff
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Attn. E A Pryzina

attachment