

OCT 13 1976

Docket No. 50-263

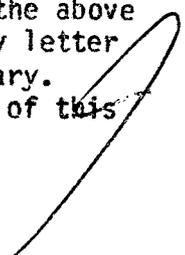
Northern States Power Company
ATTN: Mr. L. O. Mayer, Manager
Nuclear Support Services
414 Nicollet Mall - Eighth Floor
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

Gentlemen:

RE: MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT

By letter dated August 24, 1976, General Electric (GE) provided us information (enclosed) concerning the effects of core flow on loss of coolant accident (LOCA) analyses. This information indicates for some BWR-3 and BWR-4 facilities that a reduction in core flow should be accompanied by an associated reduction in maximum average planar linear heat generation rate (MAPLHGR) limits. Although a reduction in peak linear heat generation ordinarily follows a reduction in flow, technical specifications do not specifically address this for all core flow conditions. GE recommends application of a correction factor to the 100% core flow MAPLHGR limit and states that affected facilities have been informed of this recommendation.

We are currently reviewing the GE submittal. A copy of our recent request to GE for additional information is enclosed for your information. We are requesting that BWR-3 and -4 licensees determine the impact of the GE studies discussed above on the operation of their facilities and inform us of how these relate to their facilities and, if appropriate, their intentions with respect to restricting MAPLHGR limits at reduced core flows. We are aware that you have provided much of this information in your Licensee Event Report (LER) submitted September 10, 1976, however, we request that you provide the above information, being requested of BWR-3 and -4 licensees, by letter including additional detail to amplify your LER as necessary. Please provide this information within 20 days of receipt of this letter.



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This request for generic information was approved by GAO under a blanket clearance number B-180225(R0072). This clearance expires July 31, 1977.

Sincerely,

Original signed by
 Dennis L. Ziemann
 Dennis L. Ziemann, Chief
 Operating Reactors Branch #2
 Division of Operating Reactors

Enclosures:

1. GE letter to NRC
 dtd. 8/24/76
2. NRC letter to GE
 dtd. 10/5/76 w/encl. 1

cc w/enclosures: See next page

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NOTE: SEE DOCKET 50-237 FOR ENCLOSURES.

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| | <i>[Signature]</i> | | <i>[Signature]</i> | | | |
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OCT 13 1976

cc w/enclosures:

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