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NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55401

September 10, 1969

Dr. Peter A. Morris, Director Division of Reactor Licensing United States Atomic Energy Commission Washington, D. C. 20545

Dear Dr. Morris:

PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT E-6197
MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT E-5979
Docket Nos 50-263 50-282, 50-306

Your letter of August 22 requested information on the radiological environmental programs for our nuclear plant projects. The Pre-Operational Radiological Environmental Program for our Monticello Plant has been underway for more than one year; however, we are just now formulating the program for our Prairie Island Plant which is a two-unit installation with the first unit scheduled for commercial operation in May, 1972. With the Monticello Plant scheduled for commercial operation next May, we will have more than two years of pre-operational data for both plants. The programs will continue into the plant operational periods as required.

Our Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR) submitted in November, 1968 in support of our application for an operating license for our Monticello Plant included a description of the Environmental Radiological Monitoring Program. Your letter of May 1, 1969 conveyed comments on the program from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and we accordingly have modified our program. These changes in the program were reflected in Amendment No. 15 to our FSAR which was submitted under a date of July 2, 1969.

Per your request we are enclosing two copies of our 1968 Annual Report on the Monticello Environmental Monitoring Program. This report covers ecological studies as well as the radiological surveys. Appendix C of the report is a general description of the environmental monitoring program as it existed on September 1, 1968. Also enclosed are two copies of a descriptive booklet updating the scope of our environmental monitoring program. The revised scope includes the changes recommended by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service as well as certain other changes and expansions that we have made in our overall program. We regret that we are unable to furnish fifteen copies of these reports as you have requested; however, the reports are amenable to any copying process.

We anticipate that the overall monitoring program for our Prairie Island Plant will follow quite closely the program that we have underway for our Monticello Plant as described in the enclosed booklet. Sampling stations DOCKETED

SEP 1 5 1969 ...

ATOMIC ENERGY

COMMISSION

Regulatory Mail Section

- 2 -Dr. Peter A. Morris September 10, 1969 and other features of the Prairie Island program will be appropriate to the site environs. The Prairie Island program, as the Monticello program, will include ecological studies related mainly to thermal effects. However, the ecological and radiological studies will be coordinated to maintain surveillance on any possible combined effects on the environment. Our letter of July 9, responding to Mr. Price's letter of June 27, transmitted a report on the environmental program that we are conducting for our fossil-fueled A. S. King Generating Plant. The report covers the first year of operation for the plant and may be helpful to you in considering the matter of thermal effects. We trust the above information and supporting reports are sufficient to meet your requirements, but if additional assistance is required, please feel free to call on us. Yours very truly D. F. McElroy Vice President - Engineering DFM/ECW/lj Enclosure - See Reports Section Cc: Donald E. Nelson Gerald Charnoff