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Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

May 14, 197

William H. Regan, Jr., Chief Environmental Projects Branch 4 Division of Reactor Licensing U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Regan:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission has requested that the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) pursuant to Section 401 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 (FWPCA), certify that the discharge from the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant will be in accordance with presently applicable water quality limitations.

The MPCA is at this time unable to provide such certification. Pursuant to Section 402 of the FWPCA and to its own statutes and regulations, the MPCA in August, 1974, issued a draft National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for the Monticello plant incorporating applicable state and federal water quality standards. Northern States Power Company (NSP) filed a request for adjudicatory hearing in this matter in October, 1974, and prehearing procedures in this matter are still continuing.

NSP has raised a number of issues to be considered at the hearing. They include:

- (1) An alternative thermal limitation, pursuant to Section 316 of the FWPCA;
- (2) Changes on proposed chlorine standards and restrictions on chlorination periods;
- (3) Changes in the maximum discharge of oil and grease and total suspended solids;
- (4) A variance from state thermal and mixing zone limitations; and

William H. Regan, Jr., Chief Page 2 May 14, 1975

(5) Changes in compliance schedules.

Until the hearing in this matter is concluded and a decision is made by the Agency, we can provide no Section 401 certification. If I can provide further information to you in this regard, please contact me or William P. Donohue of the Attorney General's staff.

Very truly yours,

Lovell E. Richie Deputy Director

cc: See Attached List

LER:SSG/mw

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