



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

November 28, 2011

Mr. Mark A. Schimmel  
Site Vice President  
Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant  
Northern States Power Company - Minnesota  
1717 Wakonade Drive East  
Welch, MN 55089-9642

SUBJECT: PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2 –  
REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING 60-DAY  
RESPONSE TO BULLETIN 2011-01, "MITIGATING STRATEGIES"  
(TAC NOS. ME6471 AND ME6472)

Dear Mr. Schimmel:

On May 11, 2011, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued Bulletin 2011-01, "Mitigating Strategies" (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML111250360), to all holders of operating licenses for nuclear power reactors, except those that have permanently ceased operation and have certified that fuel has been removed from the reactor vessel. The purpose of NRC Bulletin 2011-01 (the bulletin) was to obtain a comprehensive verification that licensees' mitigating strategies to maintain or restore core cooling, spent fuel cooling, and containment following a large explosion or fire were compliant with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Section 50.54(hh)(2). The bulletin requested information on licensee 10 CFR 50.54(hh)(2) mitigating strategies in light of the recent events at Japan's Fukushima Daiichi facility to determine if (1) additional assessment of program implementation is needed, (2) the current inspection program should be enhanced, or (3) further regulatory action is warranted.

The bulletin required two sets of responses pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 50.54(f). The first responses were due 30 days after issuance of the bulletin (June 10, 2011). By letter dated June 9, 2011 (ADAMS Accession No. ML111610510), you provided a response to the first set of questions for Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant, Units 1 and 2. The second responses were due 60 days after issuance of the bulletin (July 11, 2011). By letter dated July 11, 2011 (ADAMS Accession No. ML111930159), you responded to this second set of questions.

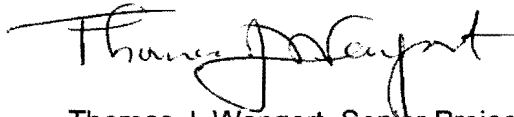
The NRC staff has reviewed the submitted information and determined that it needs additional information regarding your 60-day response to the bulletin. Please respond to the enclosed request for additional information within 30 days of the date of this letter.

M. A. Schimmel

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If you have any questions regarding this letter, please feel free to contact Thomas J. Wengert at (301) 415-4037.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas J. Wengert". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Thomas" and last name "Wengert" clearly distinguishable.

Thomas J. Wengert, Senior Project Manager  
Plant Licensing Branch LPLIII-1  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-282 and 50-306

cc: Distribution via Listserv

Enclosure: Request for Additional Information

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

NRC BULLETIN 2011-01, "MITIGATING STRATEGIES"

PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2

DOCKET NOS. 50-282 AND 50-306

Background

Bulletin 2011-01, "Mitigating Strategies," requested that each licensee describe in detail the maintenance and testing on equipment procured to support the mitigating strategies to ensure that it will be functional when needed. In the context of the mitigating strategies, monitor nozzles, spray nozzles, and similar devices are commonly used for firefighting, spent fuel pool spray strategies, and as a means to reduce the magnitude of fission product releases. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff could not determine if you performed activities to ensure that these devices will be functional when needed.

Request for Additional Information

Describe in detail the maintenance or testing of monitor nozzles, spray nozzles, or similar devices to ensure that they will be functional when needed.

Enclosure

M. A. Schimmel

- 2 -

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please feel free to contact Thomas J. Wengert at (301) 415-4037.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Thomas J. Wengert, Senior Project Manager  
Plant Licensing Branch LPLIII-1  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-282 and 50-306

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Enclosure: Request for Additional Information

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