



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

November 22, 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 RELATED TO ADOPTION OF
ALTERNATIVE SOURCE TERM METHODOLOGY (TAC NOS. ME2609 AND
ME2610)

Dear Mr. Schimmel:

By letter to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) dated October 27, 2009 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML093160583), as supplemented by letters dated April 29, 2010, May 25, 2010, June 23, 2010, August 12, 2010, December 17, 2010, June 22, 2011, July 11, 2011, and August 9, 2011, (ADAMS Accession Nos. ML101200083, ML101460064, ML101760017, ML102300295, ML103510322, ML111740145, ML111930157, and ML112220098, respectively), Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation (the licensee), doing business as Xcel Energy, requested Technical Specifications changes related to adoption of an Alternative Source Term (AST) Methodology for the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant, Units 1 and 2.

The NRC staff is reviewing your submittal and has determined that additional information is required to complete the review. The specific information requested is addressed in the enclosure to this letter. During a discussion with your staff on November 17, 2011, it was agreed that you would provide a response to this request by December 9, 2011.

The NRC staff considers that timely responses to requests for additional information help ensure sufficient time is available for staff review and contribute toward the NRC's goal of efficient and effective use of staff resources.

M. Schimmel

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If circumstances result in the need to revise the requested response date, please contact me 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" being the most prominent.

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

Docket Nos. 50-282 and 50-306

Enclosure:
Request for Additional Information

cc w/encl: Distribution via ListServ

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2

DOCKET NOS. 50-282 AND 50-306

By letter dated October 27, 2009 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML093160583), as supplemented by letters dated April 29, 2010, May 25, 2010, June 23, 2010, August 12, 2010, December 17, 2010, June 22, 2011, July 11, 2011, and August 9, 2011, (ADAMS Accession Nos. ML101200083, ML101460064, ML101760017, ML102300295, ML103510322, ML111740145, ML111930157, and ML112220098, respectively), Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation (the licensee), doing business as Xcel Energy, requested Technical Specifications changes related to adoption of an Alternative Source Term Methodology for the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant (PINGP), Units 1 and 2.

Background

By letters dated June 22, 2011, and August 9, 2011, in response to Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff requests for additional information, the licensee provided a tabulation of instrumentation required to cope with a Steam Generator Tube Rupture (SGTR) event. The NRC staff has reviewed these responses and requests further clarification regarding the appropriate qualification levels for this instrumentation.

Request for Additional Information

- (1) Identify which instrumentation on the table discussed above are the "Principal" Instrumentation and Controls (I&C) needed for the identification and mitigation of the SGTR event, and which equipment are considered "available" as a back-up or secondary instrument function, if needed. Principal and backup instrumentation are as described in Westinghouse topical report WCAP-10698-P-A (proprietary).
- (2) For each of the items identified as Principal I&C equipment used, state whether this equipment is safety-related or not, and describe the qualification levels to which this equipment meets PINGP's current licensing basis for identifying safety related equipment. Provide justification for the use of any equipment on this list that is not qualified to meet safety related standards appropriate to your licensing basis. Include a description of that equipment which is not fully-qualified to meet requirements for safety-related instrumentation per your licensing basis, but has been upgraded to have augmented quality, and describe how this augmented quality has been achieved.
- (3) The PINGP Updated Safety Analysis Report, Tables 7.10-1 and 7.10-2 enumerate the Regulatory Guide 1.97, Rev. 2 variables applicable to Units 1 and 2, respectively. These tables have been previously reviewed and approved by the NRC in various safety evaluations. Verify that appropriate accident monitoring instrumentation supporting Principal SGTR indication functions is included on these tables.

Enclosure

M. Schimmel

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If circumstances result in the need to revise the requested response date, please contact me at (301) 415-4037.

Sincerely,

/RA/

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

Docket Nos. 50-282 and 50-306

Enclosure:
Request for Additional Information

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ADAMS Accession Number: ML113250575

OFFICE	NRR/LPL3-1/PM	NRR/LPL3-1/LA	NRR/DE/EICB/BC	LPL3-1/BC (A)	NRR/LPL3-1/PM
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DATE	11/21/11	11/21/11	11/22/11	11/22/11	11/22/11

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