

September 27, 1983

Docket No. 50-263

Mr. D. M. Musolf  
Nuclear Support Services Department  
Northern States Power Company  
414 Nicollet Mall - 8th Floor  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

Dear Mr. Musolf:

Re: Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant

Distribution:  
Docket File  
NRC PDR  
Local PDR  
ORB #2 Reading  
DEisenhut  
OELD  
EJordan  
HNicolaras  
SNorris  
NSIC  
JTaylor  
ACRS (10)

We have reviewed your September 30, 1982 application which proposed changes to the Technical Specifications concerning the minimum source range monitor (SRM) count rate. The proposed changes would allow the count rate of the SRM channels to drop below three counts per second when the entire reactor core is being removed or replaced.

After reviewing your submittal, we have held numerous conference calls with your staff, during which we identified three basic safety concerns that have not been addressed.

The enclosure to this letter identifies these three areas and we request that you respond to this request for additional information within 30 days of receipt of this letter.

The reporting and/or recordkeeping requirements contained in this letter affect fewer than ten respondents; therefore, OMB clearance is not required under P.L. 96-511.

Sincerely,

Original signed by/

Domenic B. Vassallo, Chief  
Operating Reactors Branch #2  
Division of Licensing

8310060586 830927  
PDR ADOCK 05000263  
P PDR

Enclosure:  
Request for Additional  
Information

cc w/enclosure  
See next page

OFFICE	DL:ORB#2	DL:ORB#2	DL:ORB#2				
SURNAME	SNorris	HNicolaras	DBVassallo				
DATE	9/27/83	9/27/83	9/27/83				

Mr. D. M. Musolf  
Northern States Power Company  
Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant

cc:

Gerald Charnoff, Esquire  
Shaw, Pittman, Potts and  
Trowbridge  
1800 M Street, N. W.  
Washington, D. C. 20036

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Resident Inspector's Office  
Box 1200  
Monticello, Minnesota 55362

Plant Manager  
Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant  
Northern States Power Company  
Monticello, Minnesota 55362

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Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
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Roseville, Minnesota 55113

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Mr. John W. Ferman, Ph.D.  
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Minnesota Department of Health  
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Minneapolis, Minnesota 55440

Auditor  
Wright County Board of Commissioners  
Buffalo, Minnesota 55313

U. S. Environmental Protection  
Agency  
Region V Office  
Regional Radiation Representative  
230 South Dearborn Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60604

James G. Keppler  
Regional Administrator  
Region III Office  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
799 Roosevelt Road  
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

Request for Additional Information  
Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant  
SRM Count Rate Technical Specification

1. Please state and describe the unloading and loading pattern(s) which you intend to use for full core discharge. The justification for the proposed change seems to be based on spiral unloading and loading but the method of unloading and loading to be used by the licensee has not been indicated.
2. During full core discharge, will the control blades remain in the core supported by guide blades or will the control blades be removed also? Please describe and fully justify either course of action.
3. Please provide justification as to how the Technical Specification requirement on shutdown margin will be met during full core unloading and loading.