



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

August 7, 2012

Mr. Mark A. Schimmel  
Site Vice President  
Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant  
Northern States Power Company - Minnesota  
2807 West County Road 75  
Monticello, MN 55362-9637

SUBJECT: MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT – DETERMINATION THAT  
SUBMITTED INFORMATION REGARDING NORDIC STEAM DRYER CAN BE  
WITHHELD FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE (TAC NOS. MD9990)

Dear Mr. Schimmel:

By letter dated July 19, 2012 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML122070642), you submitted supplemental information regarding the Nordic replacement steam dryer to support your application for an amendment to approve extended power uprate. Among other things, the submittal includes:

Enclosure 1 - Westinghouse Electric Company, LLC (WEC) letter LTR-A&SA-12-10, Revision 1, P - Attachment, "Monticello Replacement Steam Dryer RAI [Request for Additional Information] and Action Item Responses for Acoustic/Structural Evaluation," dated July 3, 2012 (ADAMS Accession No. ML12207A546).

Enclosure 2 - WEC Report WCAP-17548-P, Revision 0, "Signal Processing Performed on Monticello MSL [Main Steam Line] Strain Gage and RSD [Replacement Steam Dryer] Instrumentation Data," dated May 2012 (ADAMS Accession No. ML12207A547).

Enclosure 3 - WEC Report WCAP-17540-P, Revision 0, "Monticello Replacement Steam Dryer Program Acoustic Load Definition Methodology," dated May 2012 (ADAMS Accession No. ML12207A548).

Enclosure 4 - WEC Report WCAP-17252-P, Revision 2, "Acoustic Loads Definition for the Monticello Steam Dryer Replacement Project," dated May 2012 (ADAMS Accession No. ML12207A549).

Enclosure 5 - WEC Report WCAP-17549-P, Revision 0, "Monticello Replacement Steam Dryer Structural Evaluation for High-Cycle Acoustic Loads Using ACE [Acoustic Circuit Enhanced]," dated May 2012 (ADAMS Accession No. ML12207A550).

Enclosure 6 - a proprietary attachment from WEC letter LTR-A&SA-09-32, Revision 5, "Limit Curves for Monticello Power Ascension," dated June 2012 (ADAMS Accession No. ML12207A550).

For each of Enclosures 1 thru 6, you included an affidavit dated, respectively, July 9, May 30, May 30, May 30, May 30, and July 2, 2012, executed by Mr. J. A. Gresham of Westinghouse

Electric Company Nuclear Services, requesting that Enclosures 1 thru 6 be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), Part 2, Section 2.390. The affidavits state that Enclosures 1 thru 6 should be considered exempt from mandatory public disclosure because:

- (a) The information reveals the distinguishing aspects of a process (or component, structure, tool, method, etc.) where prevention of its use by any of Westinghouse's competitors without license from Westinghouse constitutes a competitive economic advantage over other companies.
- (b) It consists of supporting data, including test data, relative to a process (or component, structure, tool, method, etc.), the application of which data secures a competitive economic advantage, e.g., by optimization or improved marketability.
- (c) Its use by a competitor would reduce his expenditure or resources or improve his competitive position in the design, manufacture, shipment, installation, assurance of quality, or licensing a similar product.

You have provided a non-proprietary versions of Enclosures 1 thru 6, identified as Enclosures 8 thru 13, which the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has disclosed to the public as ADAMS Accession Nos. ML12207A541, ML12207A542, ML12207A543, ML12207A544, and ML12207A545, respectively.

We have reviewed Mr. Gresham's affidavits in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 2.390, and on the basis of their statements, we have determined that the submitted information sought to be withheld contains proprietary commercial information and should be withheld from public disclosure. Therefore, Enclosures 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, which are marked as proprietary, will be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR Sections 2.390(b)(5) and 103(b) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

Withholding from public inspection shall not affect the right, if any, of persons properly and directly concerned to inspect the documents. If the need arises, we may send copies of this information to our consultants working in this area. We will, of course, ensure that the consultants have signed the appropriate agreements for handling proprietary information.

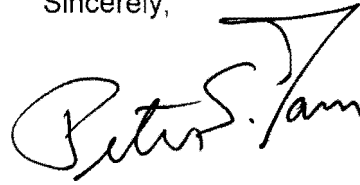
If the basis for withholding this information from public inspection should change in the future such that the information could then be made available for public inspection, you should promptly notify the NRC. You also should understand that the NRC may have cause to review this determination in the future, for example, if the scope of a Freedom of Information Act request includes your information. In all review situations, if the NRC makes a determination adverse to the above, you will be notified in advance of any public disclosure.

M. A. Schimmel

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If you have any questions regarding this matter, I can be reached at 301-415-1451.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter S. Tam". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "T" at the end.

Peter S. Tam, Senior Project Manager  
Plant Licensing Branch III-1  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-263

cc: Mr. J. A. Gresham, Manager, Regulatory Compliance  
Westinghouse Electric Company  
Nuclear Services  
1000 Westinghouse Drive  
Cranberry Township, PA 16066

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M. A. Schimmel

- 3 -

If you have any questions regarding this matter, I can be reached at 301-415-1451.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Peter S. Tam, Senior Project Manager  
Plant Licensing Branch III-1  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
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cc: Mr. J. A. Gresham, Manager, Regulatory Compliance  
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