



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

REGION III
2443 WARRENVILLE ROAD, SUITE 210
LISLE, IL 60532-4352

October 17, 2012

Mr. Jim Lynch
Site Vice President
Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant
Northern States Power Company, Minnesota
1717 Wakonade Drive East
Welch, MN 55089

**SUBJECT: ASSESSMENT FOLLOW-UP LETTER FOR PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR
GENERATING PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2**

Dear Mr. Lynch:

As a result of its continuous review of plant performance, the NRC updated its assessment of the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant, Units 1 and 2. The NRC's evaluation consisted of a review of performance indicators and inspection results. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of your facility. This letter supplements, but does not supersede, the mid-cycle letter issued on September 4, 2012.

On February 16, 2012, the NRC forwarded a letter that stated the final significance determination of one or more greater-than-green inspection findings in the Security Cornerstone. The finding, which occurred in the fourth quarter of 2011, was previously documented and assessed in NRC Inspection Report 05000282/2011408; 05000306/2011408.

On August 31, 2012, the NRC completed a supplemental inspection in accordance with Inspection Procedure 95001, "Inspection for One or Two White Inputs in a Strategic Performance Area." The results of this inspection were documented in NRC Inspection Report 05000282/2012406; 05000306/2012406.

Therefore, in accordance with the guidance in Inspection Manual Chapter (IMC) 0305, "Operating Reactor Assessment Program," the greater-than-green finding will only be considered in assessing plant performance for a total of four quarters. As a result, the NRC determined the performance at the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant, Units 1 and 2 to be in the Licensee Response Column of the Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Action Matrix as of the date of this letter.

J. Lynch

-2-

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records System (PARS) component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Please contact me at 630-829-9628 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Kenneth Riemer, Branch Chief
Branch 2
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos.: 50-282; 50-306; 72-010
License Nos.: DPR-42; DPR-60; SNM-2506

cc: Distribution via ListServ™

J. Lynch

-2-

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records System (PARS) component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Please contact me at 630-829-9628 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Kenneth Riemer, Branch Chief
Branch 2
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos.: 50-282; 50-306; 72-010
License Nos.: DPR-42; DPR-60; SNM-2506

cc: Distribution via ListServ™

DISTRIBUTION:

Cayetano Santos
RidsNrrPMPrairieIsland Resource
RidsNrrDorLp13-1 Resource
RidsNrrDirslrib Resource
Chuck Casto
Cynthia Pederson
Steven Orth
Jared Heck
Allan Barker
Christine Lipa
Carole Ariano
Linda Linn
DRPIII
DRSIII
Patricia Buckley
Tammy Tomczak
ROPAssessment.Resource@nrc.gov

DOCUMENT NAME: Prairie Island Assessment Letter

☒ Publicly Available ☐ Non-Publicly Available ☐ Sensitive ☒ Non-Sensitive

To receive a copy of this document, indicate in the concurrence box "C" = Copy without attach/encl "E" = Copy with attach/encl "N" = No copy

OFFICE	RIII	RIII	RIII	RIII
NAME	NShah:rj	KRiemer		
DATE	10/17/12	10/17/12		

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY