



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

March 22, 2013

LICENSEE: Northern States Power Company of Minnesota (NSPM)
FACILITY: Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant
SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF THE FEBRUARY 28, 2013, PUBLIC MEETING WITH NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY OF MINNESOTA (NSPM) TO DISCUSS FUTURE LICENSE AMENDMENT APPLICATION REGARDING USE OF AREVA ATRIUM 10XM FUEL (TAC NO. MF0654)

On February 28, 2013, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff held a Category 1 public meeting with representatives of NSPM, doing business as Xcel Energy (the licensee), and AREVA, at NRC headquarters. The purpose of the meeting was for the licensee to discuss its "simplified" fuel transition plan related to a future license amendment application regarding use of AREVA Atrium 10XM fuel. The Enclosure to this summary contains the list of participants.

On July 20, 2012, a public meeting was held with NSPM to discuss the transition to AREVA fuel. At the conclusion of this meeting, it was determined that the licensee should plan to submit its fuel transition license amendment report (LAR) following NRC approval of the extended power uprate (EPU) and MELLLA+ (Maximum Extended Load Line Limit Analysis Plus) LARs, which are currently under NRC staff review. Since final NRC approval of both the EPU and MELLLA+ LARs was indeterminate, the licensee requested a second pre-application meeting to discuss an alternative licensing approach for submitting the fuel transition LAR.

The licensee's presentation followed handout material (docketed at Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML13066A446) provided during the meeting. The licensee indicated that they would request NRC approval of the proposed fuel transition LAR by January 2015 (prior to Refueling Outage 27), to support loading of AREVA Atrium 10XM fuel for Fuel Cycle 28.

The licensee proposes a two-phase approach for submittal of its fuel transition LAR. The phased approach is designed to ensure that no "link" exists to either the EPU or MELLLA+ amendments, such that the NRC staff may begin its review. The Phase 1 fuel transition LAR is characterized as "simplified," in that it would be analyzed at EPU and MELLLA (not MELLLA+) conditions with Areva fuel. The Phase 1 fuel transition LAR could be submitted in July 2013.

Phase 2 of the plan would be the licensee's approach to achieve full EPU power using AREVA fuel. The licensee provided three options in its presentation: (1) submit an LAR to implement Areva extended flow window; (2) submit an LAR to implement MELLLA+ for AREVA fuel; or (3) install upgraded jet pumps to use up to 105 percent of the flow window.

The NRC staff understood Xcel Energy's phased approach toward transitioning to Areva fuel. There was no comment from the staff rejecting this approach. The NRC staff advised the

licensee to continue to keep communication channels open between now and submittal of the application, and that the staff would notify Xcel Energy with any subsequent additional concerns.

There were no members of the public in attendance. No portion of this meeting was closed to the public because no proprietary information or security-related information was used by the participants. Before the meeting adjourned, all participants were given the opportunity to comment on any aspects of the meeting. No comment or feedback was provided.

Please direct any inquiries to me at 301-415-3049 or e-mail terry.beltz@nrc.gov.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Terry A. Beltz", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Terry A. Beltz, Senior Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch III-1
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-263

Enclosure: List of participants

cc w/encl: Distribution via ListServ

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

MEETING BETWEEN THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

AND NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY OF MINNESOTA

MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT

FUTURE AMENDMENT REGARDING AREVA ATRIUM 10XM FUEL

FEBRUARY 28, 2013

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>
Michael Baumann	Xcel Energy
Terry Beltz	NRR/DORL/LPL3-1 ****
Cliff Bonneau	Xcel Energy
Robert Carlson	NRR/DORL/LPL3-1 ****
Paul Clifford	NRR/DSS **
Gene Eckholt	Xcel Energy
John Fields	Xcel Energy
Ashley Guzzetta	NRR/DSS/SRXB **
Tai Huang	NRR/DSS/SRXB **
Alan Meginnis	Areva
Sam Miranda	NRR/DSS/SRXB **
Mathew Pannicker	NRR/DSS/SNPB ***
Andrew Proffitt	NRR/DSS/SNPB ***
Doug Pruitt	Areva
Ed Weinkam	Xcel Energy
Ryan Welch	Areva
Sheena Whaley	NRR/DSS/SNPB ***

The following participated by telephone:

Glenn Adams	Xcel Energy
Jill Fisher	Exelon
Ron Harris	Xcel Energy
Hank Hoelscher	Xcel Energy
Jerry Ingham	Areva
Dan Tinkler	Areva
John Wheeler	Exelon

* Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Division of Safety Systems

** Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Division of Safety Systems, Reactor Systems Branch

*** Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Division of Safety Systems, Nuclear Performance & Code Review Branch

**** Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Division of Operating Reactor Licensing, Plant Licensing Branch 3-1

Enclosure

licensee to continue to keep communication channels open between now and submittal of the application, and that the staff would notify Xcel Energy with any subsequent additional concerns.

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Please direct any inquiries to Terry Beltz at 301-415-3049 or e-mail terry.beltz@nrc.gov.

/RA/

Terry A. Beltz, Senior Project Manager
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Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
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ADAMS Accession NOS.: Package: ML13066A448 Meeting Notice: ML13043A024

Meeting Summary: ML13066A442 Licensee's Handout: ML13066A446

OFFICE	LPL3-1/PM	LPL3-1/LA	SRXB/BC(A)	SNPB/BC	LPL3-1/BC	LPL3-1/PM
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