

July 10, 2013

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, UNIT 1 – PLAN FOR THE REGULATORY AUDIT REGARDING FLOODING WALKDOWNS TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF NEAR-TERM TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATION 2.3 RELATED TO THE FUKUSHIMA DAI-ICHI NUCLEAR POWER PLANT ACCIDENT (TAC NO. MF0248)

Dear Mr. Schimmel:

On March 12, 2012, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff issued a request for information letter per Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, Subpart 50.54(f) (50.54(f) letter). The 50.54(f) letter<sup>1</sup> was issued to power reactor licensees and holders of construction permits requesting addressees to provide further information to support the NRC staff's evaluation of regulatory actions to be taken in response to lessons learned from Japan's March 11, 2011, Great Tōhoku Earthquake and subsequent tsunami. The request addressed the methods and procedures for plants to conduct seismic and flooding hazard walkdowns to identify and address degraded, nonconforming, or unanalyzed conditions through the corrective action program, and to verify the adequacy of the monitoring and maintenance procedures.

By letter dated November 27, 2012,<sup>2</sup> and supplemented by letter dated March 29, 2013,<sup>3</sup> Northern States Power Company – Minnesota submitted a Flooding Walkdown Report as requested per Enclosure 4, "Recommendation 2.3: Flooding," of the 50.54(f) letter for Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant (MNGP), Unit 1. By letter dated May 23, 2013,<sup>4</sup> the NRC staff provided plans to conduct a regulatory audit to gain a better understanding of the methods and procedures used by MNGP to conduct the flooding walkdowns and facilitate NRC staff review of the walkdown report. The audit was to be conducted at MNGP from July 30 – August 2, 2013, in accordance with the referenced regulatory audit plan.

In a phone call on June 12, 2013,<sup>5</sup> your staff indicated their intent to supplement your March 29, 2013 walkdown report. During this call, the NRC and your staff agreed that postponing the audit would be appropriate until the NRC staff had received and reviewed the additional information. Therefore, the NRC staff is postponing the audit until this additional

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1 The 50.54(f) letter is available in the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) under Accession No. ML12053A340.  
2 The November 27, 2012, response is available under ADAMS Accession No. ML12333A348.  
3 The March 29, 2013, supplement is available under ADAMS Accession No. ML13092A055.  
4 The May 23, 2013, audit plan is available under ADAMS Accession No. ML13127A163.  
5 The June 12, 2013, phone call summary is available under ADAMS Accession No. ML13169A035.

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information has been submitted and a new date can be arranged. The NRC staff will inform you of the revised date via separate correspondence.

If you have any questions, please contact me by telephone at 301-415-3049 or by e-mail at [Terry.Beltz@nrc.gov](mailto:Terry.Beltz@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

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

cc: Distribution via Listserv

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**/RA/**

Terry A. Beltz, Senior Project Manager  
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**\*Via E-mail**

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