

## NRR-PMDAPEm Resource

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**From:** Beltz, Terry  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 10, 2014 1:03 PM  
**To:** 'Rippy, L. Randal'  
**Cc:** 'Loeffler, Richard A.'; 'Peter.Kissinger@xenuclear.com'; Sheng, Simon; Carlson, Robert  
**Subject:** Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant – Acceptance Review re: Relief Request RR-008 (TAC No. MF3551)

Dear Mr. Rippy:

By letter dated February 28, 2014 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession Package No. ML14064A191), Northern States Power Company – Minnesota (NSPM), doing business as Xcel Energy, submitted a request to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant (MNGP). The request proposes an alternative to visually inspect all accessible surfaces on both the top and underside of Shroud Support Plate Welds H8 and H9, which have known flaws, for all refueling outages in each of the three periods in the Fifth Ten-Year Inservice Inspection (ISI) Interval without disassembly of fuel cells or jet pump assemblies.

Pursuant to Sections 50.55a(a)(3)(i) and 50.55a(a)(3)(ii) of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), the applicant shall demonstrate that the proposed alternatives would provide an acceptable level of quality and safety, or that compliance with the specified requirements of Section 50.55a would result in hardship or unusual difficulty without a compensating increase in the level of quality or safety. NSPM is requesting relief on the basis that implementation of the proposed alternative will continue to provide reasonable assurance of structural integrity of the MNGP reactor vessel shroud support plate.

The NRC staff has reviewed your application and concluded that it does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed relief request in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment. Given the lesser scope and depth of the acceptance review as compared to the detailed technical review, there may be instances in which issues that impact the NRC staff's ability to complete the detailed technical review are identified despite. You will be advised of any further information needed to support the NRC staff's detailed technical review by separate correspondence.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

*Terry A. Beltz, Senior Project Manager  
Plant Licensing Branch III-1  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
(301) 415-3049  
[Terry.Beltz@nrc.gov](mailto:Terry.Beltz@nrc.gov)*

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RR-008 (TAC No. MF3551)  
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**From:** Beltz, Terry

**Created By:** Terry.Beltz@nrc.gov

**Recipients:**

"Loeffler, Richard A." <Richard.Loeffler@xenuclear.com>  
Tracking Status: None  
"Peter.Kissinger@xenuclear.com" <Peter.Kissinger@xenuclear.com>  
Tracking Status: None  
"Sheng, Simon" <Simon.Sheng@nrc.gov>  
Tracking Status: None  
"Carlson, Robert" <Robert.Carlson@nrc.gov>  
Tracking Status: None  
"Rippy, L. Randal" <Randal.Rippy@xenuclear.com>  
Tracking Status: None

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