



414 Nicollet Mall – MP4  
Minneapolis, MN 55401

December 11, 2014

L-XE-14-023  
10 CFR 50.54(a)(4)

ATTN: Document Control Desk  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant  
Units 1 and 2  
Dockets 50-282 and 50-306  
Renewed License Nos. DPR-42 and DPR-60

Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant  
Docket 50-263  
Renewed License No. DPR-22

Prairie Island Independent Spent Fuel  
Storage Installation  
Docket 72-10  
Materials License No. SNM-2506

Response to NRC Request for Additional Information Regarding Review and Approval of  
NSPM QATR (TAC Nos. MF5120, MF5121, and MF5122)

- References:
- 1) Letter from NSPM to Document Control Desk, "Request for Review and Approval of Northern States Power Company Quality Assurance Topical Report," dated October 31, 2014 (ADAMS Accession No. ML14304A353).
  - 2) Letter from NSPM to Document Control Desk, "Supplement to Request for Review and Approval of Northern States Power Company Quality Assurance Topical Report," dated November 12, 2014 (ADAMS Accession No. ML14316A595).
  - 3) E-mail from NRC to NSPM, "Northern States Power Company – Minnesota (NSPM) – Draft Requests for Additional Information Regarding Review and Approval of NSPM QATR (TAC Nos. MF5120, MF5121, and MF5122)," dated December 2, 2014 (ADAMS Accession No. ML14337A787).

By letter dated October 31, 2014, (Reference 1) as supplemented by letter dated November 12, 2014, (Reference 2) Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation (NSPM), d/b/a Xcel Energy, submitted proposed changes to its Quality Assurance Topical Report

(QATR) for NRC review and approval in accordance with 10 CFR 50.54(a)(4). The proposed changes would revise previously submitted requirements related to the conduct of independent assessments, in that the independent assessment function of the Nuclear Oversight organization would be divided into two distinct functions: independent audits and independent assessments.

Subsequently, by e-mail dated December 2, 2014, the NRC provided draft Requests for Additional Information (RAIs) requesting further information required to complete its review (Reference 3). A teleconference between NRC and NSPM personnel was held on December 3, 2014, to discuss the RAIs, during which NSPM agreed to respond to the draft RAIs as written.

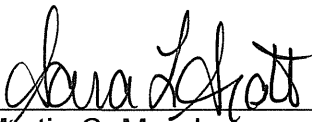
The formal response to the RAIs is provided in Enclosure 1 to this letter. During the development of the enclosed RAI response, NSPM determined it was necessary to revise the QATR to reflect a 90-day general grace period for audits as described in Regulatory Guide 1.28 Revision 4, "Quality Assurance Program Criteria (Design and Construction)." As such, NSPM-1 Revision 8b, "Quality Assurance Topical Report," is included in Enclosure 2. Enclosure 3 contains a redline/strikeout version of NSPM-1 Revision 8b reflecting changes from Revision 7 of the QATR. Enclosure 4 contains a Table documenting all changes and the basis that the QATR, as revised, continues to satisfy the requirements of 10 CFR 50 Appendix B. Enclosure 5 contains a redline/strikeout version of NSPM-1 Revision 8b reflecting changes made from Revision 8a.

Enclosures 2 and 4 supersede Enclosures 1 and 2 of Reference 1, respectively. Enclosure 3 supersedes the Enclosure of Reference 2. Enclosure 5 is provided for information, and to aid in the review of this submittal as it highlights only the changes made between the version of the QATR submitted with Reference 1, and the QATR submitted with this letter.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Mr. Shane Jurek at (612) 330-5788.

#### Summary of Commitments

This letter makes no new regulatory commitments and no revisions to existing regulatory commitments.

 for \_\_\_\_\_  
Martin C. Murphy  
Director – Nuclear Licensing and Regulatory Affairs  
Northern States Power Company-Minnesota

Enclosures (5)

cc: Administrator, USNRC, Region III  
USNRC NRR Project Manager, PINGP  
USNRC Senior Resident Inspector, PINGP  
USNRC NRR Project Manager MNGP  
USNRC Senior Resident Inspector, MNGP