

JUL 26 1990

90-15
Docket No. 50-263

Northern States Power Company
ATTN: Mr. L. R. Eliason
Vice President, Nuclear
Generation
414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55401

Gentlemen:

This refers to the routine safety inspection conducted by Mr. R. Hasse of this office on June 25 through July 13, 1990 of activities at Monticello Nuclear Power Plant authorized by NRC Operating License No. DPR-22 and to the discussion of our findings with Mr. D. Antony and others of your staff at the conclusion of the inspection.

The purpose of this inspection was to determine if design changes and modifications were being conducted in accordance with programmatic and regulatory requirements. The inspection consisted of a selective examination of procedures and representative records, observations, and interviews with personnel.

During this inspection, certain of your activities appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements, as specified in the enclosed Notice. A written response is required. We also request that you respond to the open item identified in paragraph 2.a.(2) of the attached inspection report. Our general conclusions resulting from the inspection indicated weaknesses in the areas of 10 CFR 50.59 evaluations, control of vendor supplied designs, and possibly post-modification testing. Definite strengths were identified in the areas of hardware procurement and control of temporary modifications.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the Commission's regulations, a copy of this letter, the enclosures, and your response to this letter will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

The responses directed by this letter and the accompanying Notice are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, PL 96-511.

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We will gladly discuss any questions you have concerning this inspection.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY HUBERT J. MILLER

H. J. Miller, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Violation
2. Inspection Report No.
50-263/90015(DRS)

cc w/enclosures:

D. D. Antony, Plant Manager
DCD/DCB (RIDS)
Licensing Fee Management Branch
Resident Inspector, Monticello
Resident Inspector, Prairie Island
John W. Ferman, Ph.D.,
Nuclear Engineer, MPCA
State Liaison Officer, State of
Minnesota

RIII

Hasse/lc
7/16/90

RIII *yes*

Phillips
7/16/90

RIII

DeFayette
7/16/90

RIII

Wright
7/16/90

RIII

Martin
7/16/90

RIII

Miller
7/16/90