

NRR-PMDAPem Resource

From: Beltz, Terry
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2015 11:50 AM
To: Loeffler, Richard A.
Cc: Eckholt, Gene F. (Eugene.Eckholt@xenuclear.com); Sheng, Simon; Pelton, David; RidsNRRLIC109 Resource
Subject: Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant – Acceptance Review re: Relief Request RR-010 (CAC No. MF7111)

Dear Mr. Loeffler:

By letter dated November 20, 2015 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML15324A305), 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 apply the Boiling Water Reactor Vessel Internals Project (BWRVIP) guidelines in lieu of specific American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, Section XI, “Rules for Inservice Inspection of Nuclear Power Plant Components.”

Pursuant to Sections 50.55a(z)(1) and 50.55a(z)(2) 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 in accordance with 10 CFR 50.55a(z)(1) on the basis that the proposed alternative using the BWRVIP guidelines, as discussed in its submittal, provides an acceptable level of quality and safety for the examination of reactor vessel internals.

The NRC staff has reviewed your application and concluded that it does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the 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 completion of an adequate acceptance review. Should additional information be needed to support the NRC staff’s technical review, you will be advised by separate correspondence.

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

Sincerely,

TERRY A. BELTZ, SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
One White Flint North
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852-2738
Mail Stop: O-8D15
Phone: (301) 415-3049
Terry.Beltz@nrc.gov

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Recipients:

"Eckholt, Gene F. (Eugene.Eckholt@xenuclear.com)" <Eugene.Eckholt@xenuclear.com>
Tracking Status: None
"Sheng, Simon" <Simon.Sheng@nrc.gov>
Tracking Status: None
"Pelton, David" <David.Pelton@nrc.gov>
Tracking Status: None
"RidsNRRLIC109 Resource" <RidsNRRLIC109.Resource@nrc.gov>
Tracking Status: None
"Loeffler, Richard A." <Richard.Loeffler@xenuclear.com>
Tracking Status: None

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Options

Priority: Standard
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