



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

REGION III
2443 WARRENVILLE RD. SUITE 210
LISLE, IL 60532-4352

April 4, 2016

EA-15-206

Mr. Peter A. Gardner
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 SECOND FOLLOW-UP LETTER
TO DISPUTED VIOLATION OF NRC INSPECTION REPORT 05000263/2015007**

Dear Mr. Gardner:

This is the second follow-up letter to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) acknowledgement of disputed violation of NRC Inspection Report (IR) 05000263/2015007. Specifically, on October 28, 2015, the NRC acknowledged your letter sent to the NRC, dated October 2, 2015, that contested a Non-Cited Violation documented in our IR issued on September 2, 2015. The contested Non-Cited Violation is "Failure to Review for Suitability of Application Safety-Related Relays Installed Beyond Their Service Life."

On December 21, 2015, we informed you that the NRC seeks to provide a thorough response to disputed violations within 90 days of receipt of licensee's points of contention, as described in Section 2.2.8 of the NRC Enforcement Manual, Part I. We also informed you that we expected to complete our evaluation of this disputed violation during the first quarter of calendar year 2016, which would be longer than 90 days, as we pursue an associated generic Agency position for the industry. However, these efforts are now expected to be completed after the first quarter of calendar year 2016. In the interim, we understand that you have entered the underlying technical issue into your Corrective Action Program, as discussed in IR 05000263/2015007. We will inform you as soon as we complete our evaluation.

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 2.390, "Public Inspections, Exemptions, Requests for Withholding," of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC's Public Document

P. Gardner

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Sincerely,

/RA/

David E. Hills, Acting Chief
Engineering Branch 2
Division of Reactor Safety

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Sincerely,

/RA/

David E. Hills, Acting Chief
Engineering Branch 2
Division of Reactor Safety

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