



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

February 9, 2017

Mr. Peter A. Gardner
Site Vice President
Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant
Northern States Power Company - Minnesota (NSPM)
2807 West County Road 75
Monticello, MN 55362-9637

SUBJECT: MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT – SUMMARY OF THE AUDIT
TO SUPPORT THE REVIEW OF THE MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING
PLANT LICENSE AMENDMENT REQUEST TO EXTEND THE INTEGRATED
LEAK RATE TEST FREQUENCY (CAC NO. MF7359)

Dear Mr. Gardner:

By letter to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) dated February 10, 2016, Northern States Power Company doing business as Xcel Energy Inc. (Xcel) submitted a license amendment request (LAR) to revise technical specification 5.5.11 to provide a permanent extension of the integrated leakage rate test frequency from 10 to 15 years for the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant.

To enhance the NRC staff's review of the request, the NRC staff conducted a regulatory audit on October 13 and 14, 2016, related to the probabilistic risk assessment portion of the LAR. The staff reviewed documents and held discussions with members of Xcel and its contractor, Jensen Hughes. The regulatory audit summary is enclosed.

While the NRC review team did not identify any significant issues during its audit or during the discussions with Xcel and its contractor, the team indicated that the review was ongoing.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-3733.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "R. Kuntz", written over a faint circular stamp or watermark.

Robert F. Kuntz, Senior Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch III
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-263

Enclosure:
Regulatory Audit Summary

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REGULATORY AUDIT SUMMARY RELATED TO LICENSE AMENDMENT REQUEST

REGARDING THE INTEGRATED LEAK RATE TEST FREQUENCY

NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY

MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT

DOCKET NO. 50-263

Date of Audit: October 13 - 14, 2016

Audit Location: Bethesda North Marriott Hotel & Conference Center
5701 Marinelli Rd, North Bethesda, MD 20852

NRC Audit Team Members:

Robert Kuntz, Project Manager
Dan O'Neal, Technical Reviewer
Mihaela Biro, Technical Reviewer
Martin Stutzke, Technical Reviewer
Anders Gilbertson, Technical Reviewer

FENOC and Contractor Participants:

Katherine Brandtjen, Northern States Power Corporation doing business as
Xcel Energy Inc. (Xcel)
Rick Loeffler, Xcel
Timothy Wellumson, Xcel
John Fields, Xcel
Steve Hammer, Xcel
Rick Zyduck, Xcel
Matthew Johnson, Jensen Hughes
Rick Anoba, Jensen Hughes

Documents Audited:

Presentation slides on Containment Accident Pressure

NEDC-33347P

Summary of Audit Activities:

The licensee provided a slide presentation overview and technical presentation on containment accident pressure (CAP) for MNGP, and the basis for the CAP approach taken in the license amendment request (LAR). The NRC discussed its assessment of MNGP CAP-related risk using a Semi-Markov model approach described in an NRC report (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML12234A561). The licensee's CAP risk assessment given in the LAR and CAP related key uncertainties and assumptions, were also covered.

Request for Additional Information:

The audit of the documents resulted in the formation of requests for additional informational (RAIs). Subsequent to the audit, the NRC staff issued an RAI based on its review of the LAR and the regulatory audit. The NRC staff's RAI was issued on November 18, 2016 (ADAMS Accession No. ML16323A242).

SUBJECT: MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT – SUMMARY OF THE AUDIT TO SUPPORT THE REVIEW OF THE MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT LICENSE AMENDMENT REQUEST TO EXTEND THE INTEGRATED LEAK RATE TEST FREQUENCY (CAC NO. MF7359) DATED FEBRUARY 9, 2017

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