



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

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

March 6, 2018

Mr. Scott Sharp  
Site Vice President  
Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant  
Northern States Power Company, Minnesota  
1717 Wakonade Drive East  
Welch, MN 55089-9642

**SUBJECT: NRC PARTICIPATION IN THE PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING  
PLANT EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS EXERCISE**

Dear Mr. Sharp:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) routinely participates in licensees' Emergency Preparedness Exercises to ensure that the NRC's Incident Response capabilities are effectively maintained and to provide licensees an opportunity to exercise the interface with the NRC during response to an incident at their sites. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our intent to participate in the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant Emergency Preparedness Exercise, during both the plume and ingestion pathway phases, that is scheduled to occur on July 17 and 18, 2018. Currently, the extent of participation will involve both headquarters and regional response staff. Regional participation will occur on both days. However, NRC Headquarters' staff will be participating only on July 17, 2018.

During the plume phase of the exercise, the NRC's response will involve activating our Region III Incident Response Center and dispatching an NRC Site Team, including our resident inspectors, to your emergency response facilities on July 17, 2018. A limited number of regional response staff will participate, in the ingestion pathway phase only, at the Minnesota Emergency Management Agency along with staff from the Department of Energy, Federal Radiological Monitoring and Assessment Center on July 18, 2018. If our scope of participation changes, we will contact your emergency preparedness staff to discuss the changes. We will also be coordinating with your staff to schedule pre-exercise outreach activities that we offer to our licensees. The emergency response coordinators will conduct a presentation and provide training materials to assist your staff in exercising with the NRC. The NRC outreach efforts, conducted by my staff, are tools to further reinforce concepts related to NRC incident response activities.

This letter will be made available for public inspection and copying at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> and at the NRC Public Document Room in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390, "Public Inspections, Exemptions, Requests for Withholding."

S. Sharp

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If you have any questions concerning our participation, please contact Desiree Smith, Region III Emergency Response Coordinator at 630-829-9853, or myself at 630-829-9707.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Hironori Peterson, Chief  
Health Physics and Incident Response Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-282, 50-306  
License Nos. DPR-42, DPR-60

cc: Distribution via LISTSERV®

Letter to Scott Sharp from Hironori Peterson dated March 6, 2018

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PLANT EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS EXERCISE

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