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NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55401

July 10, 1979

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U S Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT
Docket Nos. 50-282 License Nos. DPR-42
50-306   DPR-60

Supplemental Information - Containment Purging
During Normal Operation

In letters dated January 5, 1979 and April 12, 1979 we provided information
related to containment purging during normal operation requested in a letter
dated November 29, 1978 from Mr A Schwencer, Chief, Operating Reactors Branch
#1, Division of Operating Reactors, USNRC. Recently we have discovered a
discrepancy in the design analyses performed for our _ntainment purge valves
which modifies the information contained in our earlier su mittals.

As reported in our Licensee Event Report dated June 20, 1979 (LER 79-019) we
have found, through discussions with the vendor, that adequate dynamic analyses
showing that the containment purge butterfly valves can close under full
accident differential pressure have not been performed. Prior to this time we
had believed, based on statements contained in the architect-engineer's
specifications for containment purge butterfly valves, that the valves were
capable of closing under worst-case LOCA conditions. Analyses and test data
exist which verify only structural integrity and leak tightness at full
accident differential pressure for the valve in the closed position.

We will continue to pursue this difficiency with the valve vendor, the
Henry Pratt Company. Until we can assure closure of the valves under
worst-case LOCA conditions, the valves will remain closed above cold
shutdown conditions. The resolution of this deficiency will be reported
to the NRC Staff prior to resuming containment purging during normal
operation.

Please contact us if you have additional questions relating to this issue.

Yours very truly,

L O Mayer, PE
Manager of Nuclear Support Services

LOM/DMM/ak

cc: J G Keppler
     G Charnoff

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