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Docket No. 50-282
Docket No. 50-306

Northern States Power Company
ATTN: Mr. Dennis E. Gilberts
Vice President
Power Production and
System Operation
414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55401

Gentlemen:

This refers to the inspection conducted by Messrs. J. R. Creed and T. J. Madeda of this office on November 26-30, 1979, of activities at the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant, Units 1 and 2, authorized by NRC Operating Licenses No. DPR-42 and No. DPR-60 and to the discussion of our findings with Messrs. Tierney, Ortler, Kreger, Conklin and other members of your staff at the conclusion of the inspection.

The enclosed copy of our inspection report identifies areas examined during the inspection. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of a selective examination of procedures and representative records, observations, and interviews with personnel.

During this inspection, certain of your activities appeared to be in noncompliance with NRC requirements, as described in the enclosed Appendix A. The inspection showed that action had been taken to correct certain items which should prevent recurrence. Consequently, no reply to those specific items of noncompliance is required and we have no further questions regarding them at this time.

This notice is sent to you pursuant to the provisions of Section 2.201 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations. Section 2.201 requires you to submit to this office within twenty days of your receipt of this notice a written statement or explanation in reply, including for Items 1 and 4: (1) corrective action taken and the results achieved; (2) corrective action to be taken to avoid further noncompliance; and (3) the date when full compliance will be achieved.

Areas examined during this inspection concern a subject matter which is exempt from disclosure according to Section 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations. Consequently, the enclosure to this letter, our report of this inspection, and your response to the noncompliance identified in the enclosure to this letter will not be placed in the Public Document Room. Therefore, your statement of corrective action regarding the

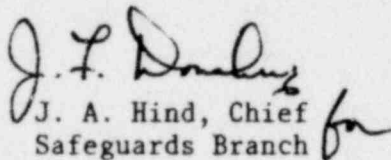
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noncompliance identified in the enclosure should be submitted as a separate enclosure to your transmittal letter.

We would like to highlight our concern regarding the key control system. We have considered the position of your staff discussed at the exit interview. Our concern, however, continues to focus on the positive control of access within the plant. We feel that the newly-installed access control system may not be totally effective if your present key control system continues to be employed, as observed. An increased level of control is needed to provide the assurance envisioned in your approved security program.

We will gladly discuss any questions you have concerning this inspection.

Sincerely,


J. A. Hind, Chief
Safeguards Branch

Enclosures:

1. Appendix A, Notice of Violation
2. IE Inspection Reports
No. 50-282/79-31 and
No. 50-306/79-25
(Part 2.790(d) Information)

cc w/encls:

Mr. F. P. Tierney, Jr.,
Plant Manager
Central Files
Reproduction Unit NRC 20b

cc w/o encls:

PDR
Local PDR