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NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55401

April 10, 1980

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

PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT
Docket No. 50-282 License No. DPR-42
50-306 DPR-60

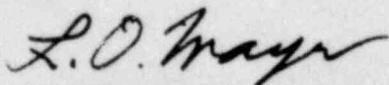
Emergency Preparedness
Evacuation Time Estimates

Mr Grimes' letter of November 29, 1979 to all Power Reactor Licensees requested estimates of the time required for the evacuation of areas near nuclear power plants under emergency conditions. It was requested that the information be submitted no later than January 31, 1980 but our letter of that date indicated that a four week extension of time was necessary to furnish the requested information. Late February telephone conversations with members of your staff explained that an additional extension of time was required and accordingly at this time we are furnishing 40 copies of the attached document containing the requested information.

As indicated in the document, several qualified state and local agencies have been involved in the development of the information. We, as the licensee, have assembled the information and produced the associated sector maps. The finished document has been reviewed and accepted by the Minnesota Public Safety Department, Division of Emergency Services.

Since no accepted methodology was available to respond to the NRC request, the best expertise available from state and local agencies has been utilized in developing the information. It appears that there will be substantial improvements in the methodology used to estimate evacuation times in view of the commitment by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to develop independent evacuation time estimates for 12 selected nuclear plant sites. Further refinements and improvements in this area are likely to follow from a very recent NRC announcement that the number of sites to be studied by FEMA has been increased to a total of 25. It is expected that this comprehensive undertaking by FEMA will result in a much better perspective on evacuation time estimates and their relationship to the emergency preparedness requirements around nuclear power plant sites.

Yours very truly,



L O Mayer, PE
Manager of Nuclear Support Services

cc: J G Keppler
G Charnoff

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