50-263

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Mr. Earl Ewald Chairman of the Board Northerm States Power Company 414 Nicollet Mall Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

Dear Mr. Ewald:

Thank you for your letter of November 28, 1969 calling attention to the modification of the schedule of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards which resulted in elimination of consideration of the Monticello project application for its operating license at the scheduled December meeting of the Committee.

The Commission discussed this matter with the Chairman of the ACRS to explore what actions could be taken to accommodate your desires for an early ACRS meeting. We were also aware of your telegram to Mr. Harold Etherington, subcommittee chairman for Monticello, on the same matter.

The ACRS decided that it could not practicably schedule a full committee meeting before the regularly scheduled meeting starting January 8, 1970. The Committee does plan, however, to schedule consideration of the Monticello application for the 8th of January and, contingent upon a favorable decision, would anticipate writing a favorable letter which would be transmitted to the Commission not later than January 10, 1970.

We regret any unnecessary delay that may be occasioned by this change in the schedule for ACRS review of the

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Nonticello application, and assure you that the staff will do what it can to expedite its work in connection with the ACRS review.

Sincerely,

(Signed) Biens T. Seeberd]

Chairman

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