



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

February 7, 1994

Docket Nos. 50-282  
and 50-306

Mr. Roger O. Anderson, Director  
Licensing and Management Issues  
Northern States Power Company  
414 Nicollet Mall  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

Dear Mr. Anderson:

SUBJECT: PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT, UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2 - GENERIC  
LETTER 89-10, SUPPLEMENT 5, "INACCURACY OF MOTOR-OPERATED VALVE  
DIAGNOSTIC EQUIPMENT" (TAC M87990 AND M87991)

On June 28, 1993, the NRC staff issued Supplement 5, "Inaccuracy of Motor-Operated Valve Diagnostic Equipment," to Generic Letter (GL) 89-10, "Safety-Related Motor-Operated Valve Testing and Surveillance," requesting nuclear power plant licensees and construction permit holders (1) to re-examine their MOV programs and to identify measures taken to account for uncertainties in properly setting valve operating thrust to ensure operability, and (2) to evaluate the schedule necessary to consider the new information on MOV diagnostic equipment inaccuracy and to take appropriate action in response to that information. Within 90 days of receipt of Supplement 5 to GL 89-10, licensees were required (1) to notify the NRC staff of the diagnostic equipment used to confirm the proper size, or to establish settings, for safety-related MOVs, and (2) to report whether they had taken actions or planned to take actions (including schedule) to address the new information on the accuracy of MOV diagnostic equipment.

The staff has reviewed the responses, and has found that, for the most part, licensees and permit holders have been actively addressing the uncertainties regarding the accuracy of MOV diagnostic equipment. The increased inaccuracy of MOV diagnostic equipment can raise questions regarding (1) the adequacy of torque switch settings to provide sufficient thrust while not exceeding thrust or torque structural limits and (2) the capability of actuator motors at current settings. In their responses, licensees and permit holders indicated that many MOVs had the potential for underthrusting or overthrusting as a result of the higher than expected inaccuracy of MOV diagnostic equipment. Consequently, some licensees reported that MOVs have been retested, adjusted, or modified to resolve the concerns regarding the accuracy of MOV diagnostic equipment.

In your response dated September 20, 1993, you stated that Northern States Power (NSP) currently uses Liberty Technologies' VOTES equipment with 2.31 software for MOV diagnostic testing. You also stated that all MOVs set up previously with the ITI-MOVATS Thrust Measuring Device (TMD) had been evaluated in accordance with ITI-MOVATS Engineering Report 5.2 and that all MOVs set up with VOTES equipment prior to receiving the 2.3 software had been

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re-evaluated in accordance with guidance from Liberty Technologies. During a future inspection, the NRC staff will discuss NSP's resolution of the MOV diagnostic equipment accuracy issue. Particularly, the staff will discuss the results of NSP's evaluation of the MOVs set up with the TMD and with VOTES equipment before receiving the 2.3 software.

This completes all efforts on TAC Nos. M87990 and M87991. If you have any questions regarding this issue, please call me at (301) 504-3024.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Marsha Gamberoni, Project Manager  
Project Directorate III-1  
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV/V  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

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Mr. Roger O. Anderson, Director  
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