

April 1, 1994

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

Northern States Power Company
ATTN: Mr. D. D. Antony
Vice President, Nuclear
Generation
414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55401

Dear Mr. Antony:

This refers to the routine inspection conducted by Mr. D. Schrum of this office on March 14-18, 1994. The inspection included a review of activities authorized for your Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report.

Areas examined during the inspection are identified in the report. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observation of activities in progress. The purpose of the inspection was to determine whether activities authorized by the license were conducted safely and in accordance with NRC requirements.

Although this inspection identified some concerns and weaknesses, many strengths were identified during this inspection period. For example, a major program strength was fire prevention which included control of combustibles, control of oil leaks, housekeeping, and cleanliness of the plant. The violations and other identified weaknesses identified in the report indicated that weaknesses exist in selected areas of the fire protection program and improvement is needed, but overall the fire protection is good.

Based on the results of this inspection, certain of your activities appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements, as specified in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice). The violation cited in Item 1 of the enclosed Notice, regarded the failure to take timely corrective actions for updating the FHA and changing the modification process to ensure fire loading changes are included in the Fire Hazards Analysis Report (FHA). The problem of the FHA not being updated had been a previous QA audit finding. The QA audit group should have been more aggressive in obtaining a more timely resolution of this problem rather than accept repeated finding response extensions. The second example of this violation regarded inadequate corrective action for not ensuring that a fire barrier for the safety injection pump was replaced or that this condition was assigned as an impairment requiring compensatory measures. The violation cited in Item 2 of the enclosed Notice regarded the failure to remove or cover combustible materials within 35 feet of a grinding activity.

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You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response to Item 1. In your response, you should document the specific actions taken and any additional actions you plan to prevent recurrence. After reviewing your response to this Notice, including your proposed corrective actions, and the results of future inspections, the NRC will determine whether further NRC enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with NRC regulatory requirements. No response is required for Item 2.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's Commission's Regulations, a copy of this letter, its enclosures, and your response to this letter will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

The responses directed by this letter and the accompanying Notice are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, PL 96-511.

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

Sincerely,

original signed by R. V. Crlenjak/for
W. D. Shafer, Chief
Maintenance and Outage Section

Enclosures:

- 1. Notice of Violation
- 2. Inspection Reports
 - No. 50-282/94004(DRS);
 - No. 50-306/94004(DRS)

cc w/enclosure:

- E. L. Watzl, Site Manager,
Prairie Island Site
- M. Wadley, Plant Manager
OC/LFDCB
Resident Inspector, RIII Prairie
Island
- Resident Inspector, RIII Monticello
- John W. Ferman, Ph.D.,
Nuclear Engineer, MPCA
- State Liaison Officer, State
of Minnesota
- State Liaison Officer, State
of Wisconsin
- Prairie Island, PM, NRR

bcc: PUBLIC IE-01

(YES)
RIII
DLS

Schrum/lc
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RIII
Kropp
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RIII
Shafer
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