



Northern States Power Company

'83 JAN 28 A11:20

414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401
Telephone (612) 330-5500

OFFICE OF GENERAL
DOCKETING & SERVICE
BRANCH

January 25, 1983

Secretary of the Commission
U S Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

DOCKET NUMBER PR-2, 55
PROPOSED RULE (47 FR 53028)
(10)

Attention: Docketing and Service Section

Northern States Power Company appreciates the opportunity to review and comment on the proposed revision to 10 CFR Parts 2 and 55 related to hearings on denial of reactor operator licenses published in the Federal Register on November 24, 1982.

We have the following comments to offer:

While there have been very few cases of contested grading, we believe it is important to continue the existing practice. The NRC has done an adequate job of examination administration in the past, but there is no guarantee that this will continue. The NRC currently has a large number of consultants who are preparing, administering and grading examinations. Because of this, there is an increased opportunity for deficient or unfair examinations, examination procedures, and grading.

Operators may view the proposed rule as yet another restriction of their rights. While there is no legal requirement to hold hearings for exam failures, this has been an available avenue in the past to resolve perceived unfairness.

Since "few hearings are held in connection with examination failures" it is not clear why the proposed rule is needed. These hearings cannot be an administrative burden if only a few are held.

For the above reasons we oppose any changes in the existing appeal process. Please contact us if you have any questions concerning our comments related to the proposed rule change.

David Musolf
David Musolf
Manager of Nuclear Support Services

DMM/js

- cc: Regional Administrator-III, NRC
- NRR Project Managers, NRC
- NRC Resident Inspectors
- G Charnoff
- J A Gonyeau
- D E Nevinski

8302100439 830125
PDR PR
2 47FR53028 PDR

DS10
add: W. Shields
9604 MNBB
Acknowledged by card. *2/2/83 emp*