

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. 50-263

NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY

NOTICE OF ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT TO PROVISIONAL
OPERATING LICENSE

AND NEGATIVE DECLARATION

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has issued Amendment No. 34 to Provisional Operating License No. DPR-22 issued to Northern States Power Company (NSP) (the licensee) which revised the license for operation of the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant (the facility) located in Wright County, Minnesota. The amendment is effective as of its date of issuance.

The amendment authorizes the increase of the spent fuel pool storage capacity from 740 to 2237 fuel assemblies.

The application for the amendment complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations. The Commission has made appropriate findings as required by the Act and the Commission's rules and regulations in 10 CFR Chapter I, which are set forth in the license amendment. Notice of Consideration of Proposed Modification to Facility Spent Fuel Storage Pool in connection with this action was published in the FEDERAL REGISTER on September 19, 1977 (42 FR 46964). The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency petitioned for leave to intervene and was admitted as party to the proceeding. No other party sought intervention.

On January 6, 1978, the NRC Staff, NSP and MPCA filed a motion in which MPCA requested leave of the Board to withdraw its petition to intervene and the parties jointly moved the Board to approve MPCA's withdrawal

of its petition to intervene. Following a special prehearing conference, held on January 31, 1978 in St. Paul, Minnesota, the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, by order dated February 27, 1978, dismissed the proceeding.

The Commission has prepared an environmental impact appraisal and has concluded that an environmental impact statement for this particular action is not warranted because there will be no environmental impact attributable to the action other than that which has already been predicted and described in the Commission's Final Environmental Statement for the facility dated November 1972.

For further details with respect to this action, see (1) the NSP filing dated August 17, 1977 as supplemented by letters dated September 12, December 9, December 14, 1977, January 3, January 30, March 10, March 16, and March 28, 1978. (2) Amendment No. 34 to License No. DPR-22, (3) the Commission's related Safety Evaluation and (4) the Commission's Environmental Impact Appraisal. All of these items are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. and at the Environmental Conservation Library, Minneapolis Public Library, 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401. A copy of items (2), (3) and (4) may be obtained upon request addressed to the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D. C. 20555, Attention: Director, Division of Operating Reactors.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland this 14th day of April 1978.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



George Lear, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #3
Division of Operating Reactors