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Ltr re their 4-15-74 ltr, furnishing addl info concerning cracked studs on recirculation pumps....

> 9105030429 740331 PDR ADDCK 05000263

PLANT NAME: Monticello

ENCLOSURES:

ACKNOWLEDGED DO NOT REMOVE

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Regulatory Docket File

NSP

NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

May 31, 1974

Mr. J. F. O'Leary, Director
Directorate of Licensing
Office of Regulation
United States Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D. C. 20545

Dear Mr. O'Leary:

MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT Docket No. 50-263 License No. DPR-22

Additional Information Concerning Cracked Studs on Recirculation Pumps

In our April 15, 1974 letter it was reported that investigation into the cause of the cracked recirculation pump stuffing box holddown cover studs and possible corrective actions had not been completed. This letter reports the resolution of the problem.

Metallurgical examination revealed that the major factor contributing to the stud fallure was that the studs were improperly heat treated causing them to be susceptible to stress corrosion cracking. The stress corrosion cracking mechanism was accelerated by a concentration cell effect of an elongation pin cavity and, possibly, by the presence of fluoride containing 0-rings in the pump gland seal assembly.

To prevent recurrence, the following steps were taken:

- a. The elongation pin cavity of the spare studs used in No. 12
 Recirculation Pump was seal welded to eliminate the possibility
 of the cavity acting as a corrosion concentration cell.
- b. New studs used in No. 11 Recirculation Pump were purchased without the elongation pin cavity.
- c. Hardness tests were performed on the newly purchased studs to verify that they had been properly heat treated.
- d. Previously installed 0-rings were replaced with halogen free 2 na-N 0-rings.

The recirculation pump main studs were ultrasonically examined and found satisfactory.

Very truly yours,

L.O. mayer

L. O. Mayer, PE Director of Nuclear Support Services

LOM/mmm

cc: J G Keppler G Charnoff

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Attn: E A Pryzina