

Docket No. 50-263

SEP 21 1977

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Northern States Power Company
 ATTN: Mr. L. O. Mayer, Manager
 Nuclear Support Services
 414 Nicollet Mall - 8th Floor
 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

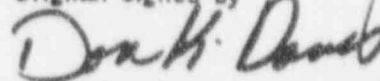
Gentlemen:

We have commenced review of your September 2, 1977 request for amendment of Provisional Operating License No. DPR-22 for the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant. The proposed amendment would allow completion of the primary integrated leak rate test in less than 24 hours.

We have also received a General Electric topical report on this subject and are aware of the interest of many other BWR licensees in our completing a rapid review and approval. However, because of certain unresolved concerns, especially those related to statistical propagation of errors, an in-depth generic review of this issue is warranted prior to approval of the new techniques. Therefore, although review of your submittal has been initiated, we do not anticipate completion in time for your use of the new technique during the present refueling outage at Monticello.

Sincerely,

Original signed by



Don K. Davis, Acting Chief
 Operating Reactors Branch #2
 Division of Operating Reactors

cc: See next page

OFFICE	ORB#2:DOR	PS-SB/OT:DOR	PS/OT:DOR	OT:DOR	ORB#2:DOR	AD'OR
SURNAME	RSnaider	BBuckely	WButler	DEisenhut	DDavis	K.Goller
DATE	9/16/77	9/19/77	9/19/77	9/19/77	9/20/77	9/21/77

September 21, 1977

cc:
Gerald Charnoff, Esquire
Shaw, Pittman, Potts and Trowbridge
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Washington, D. C. 20036

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