

Docket No. 50-263

AUG 23 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:

RE: MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT

The NRC has completed its initial evaluation of the BWR feedwater nozzle and control rod drive (CRD) line return nozzle cracking phenomena and experience to date. This evaluation has considered examination results reported by BWR owners, theoretical analyses of the causes of the cracking and propagation, and studies of potential remedial measures to minimize crack initiation and growth for the short term and also to eliminate the causes of cracking for the longer term. The enclosed staff report presents our position regarding feedwater nozzle and CRD nozzle cracking and includes inspection criteria to be used by licensees to monitor crack growth until such time as the causes of cracking have been eliminated.

Although you have already made us aware of your tentative plans for nozzle inspection and repair during the forthcoming Monticello 1977 refueling outage, and we expect to continue discussion of this subject in the near future, you should especially note the requested information submittals of Part I, Section 7 and Part II Section 5. These submittals should be provided prior to each outage subsequent to the Fall, 1977 outage.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

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

Enclosure:
Staff Report

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

*Misc
4/12*

OFFICE	DOR:ORB-2	DOR:ORB-2				
SURNAME	RPSnaider:esc	DKDavis				
DATE	8/22/77	8/23/77				



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

August 23, 1977

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Don K. Davis".

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

Enclosure:
Staff Report

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

August 23, 1977

cc
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