

September 18, 1995

Mr. E. Watzl, Vice President  
Nuclear Generation  
Northern States Power Company  
414 Nicollet Mall  
Minneapolis, MN 55401

SUBJECT: EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AT THE PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT

Dear Mr. Watzl:

Thank you for your letter dated August 7, 1995, in response to our July 7, 1995 letter requesting information regarding evacuation of the area near the plant. We requested that you inform us of the results of your review of the evacuation of large numbers of people from in and around the casino, including any safety or regulatory related issues that become apparent during your review.

Your response described the results of your review which included an evaluation of the 1992 evacuation time estimate (ETE) by HMM Associates, Inc., evaluation of the notification process for the casino area, evaluation of casino area evacuation plans, and evaluation of casino area evacuation elements.

You concluded that the population figures used in the ETE are still valid and conservative. You described periodic community meetings with offsite authorities and the casino/Indian community, early notification of the casino area, and onsite and offsite emergency plans and procedures that are in place, in process, and agreed upon. You concluded the traffic control plan will accomplish an orderly evacuation of the Prairie Island area. The agreement with the casino for early shutdown at a Site Area Emergency will significantly decrease the transient population if an evacuation at a General Emergency is required, and the agreement with CP Rail System will ensure the evacuation road from the casino will remain open. You concluded the components of an evacuation have been demonstrated and evaluated by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant also conducts periodic surveillances of the notification processes and has practiced the required notifications and communications with the casino and Indian community.

Based on this information and our discussion with the site Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, an adequate plan and appropriate procedures exist to ensure that the area near the plant can be adequately evacuated in the event of a severe accident.

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Mr. E. Watzl

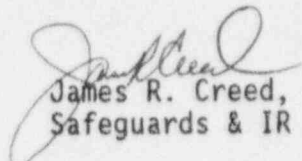
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We found your investigation to be sufficient to support your conclusions and we have no additional questions regarding this matter. We request you retain the supportive documentation of you review for a minimum of one year from the date of this letter.

In accordance with 10 CFR Part 2.790 of the Commission's regulations, a copy of this letter and your response, excluding your attachment, will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Your cooperation with us is appreciated. We will gladly discuss any questions you may have concerning this information.

Sincerely,

  
James R. Creed, Chief  
Safeguards & IR Section

Docket Nos. 50-282; 50-306

cc: Plant Manager, Prairie Island  
J. W. Ferman, Ph.D.,  
Nuclear Engineer, MPCA  
State Liaison Officer, State  
of Minnesota  
State Liaison Officer, State  
of Wisconsin  
Tribal Council  
Prairie Island Dakota Community

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