

NOV 23 1983

Docket No. 50-263
License No. DPR-22
EA 83-125

Northern States Power Company
ATTN: Mr. C. E. Larson
Director of Nuclear Generation
414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55401

Gentlemen:

This refers to the inspection conducted by Mr. W. B. Grant of this office on October 11-12, 1983, of activities at the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant, authorized by NRC Operating License No. DPR-22 and to the Enforcement Conference that was held by telephone on October 19, 1983, with Mr. C. Larson and others of Northern States Power Company and Mr. J. A. Hind and others of the NRC Region III staff.

The inspection included a review of findings from an inspection conducted on September 19, 1983 by a representative of the Department of Health and Environmental Control, South Carolina, of a radioactive shipment from Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant upon arrival of the shipment at Chem-Nuclear's Mobile Operations Division, Barnwell, South Carolina. The inspection showed that the radioactive material shipment was not packaged as required by Department of Transportation regulations and had external radiation levels in excess of regulatory limits upon its arrival at the Barnwell, South Carolina facility.

Although the event had limited public health and safety impact, we are concerned that you did not take adequate care in packing the material to prevent the loss of package integrity and to limit radiation levels from the package. To emphasize the importance of properly packaging materials for shipment, I have been authorized, after consultation with the Director, Office of Inspection and Enforcement, to issue the attached Notice of Violation and Proposed Imposition of Civil Penalties in the amount of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars for the violations set forth in the Notice. The violations have been categorized in the aggregate as a Severity Level III problem in accordance with the General Policy and Procedure for NRC Enforcement Actions, 10 CFR Part 2, Appendix C.

You are required to respond to the Notice of Violation and in preparing your response you should follow the instructions in the Notice. You should give particular attention to those actions designed to ensure continuing compliance with NRC requirements. Your written reply to this letter, and the results of

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NOV 23 1983

future inspections, will be considered in determining whether further enforcement action is appropriate.

In accordance with Section 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, a copy of this letter and the enclosure will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

The responses directed by this letter and the enclosed Notice are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, PL 96-511.

Sincerely,

Original signed by
A. Bert Davis

James G. Keppler
Regional Administrator

Enclosure: Notice of Violation
and Proposed Imposition of
Civil Penalties

cc w/encl:

- W. A. Shamla, Plant Manager
- DMB/Document Control Desk (RIDS)
- Resident Inspector, RIII Monticello
- Resident Inspector, RIII Prairie Island
- John W. Ferman, Ph.D., Nuclear
Engineer, MPCA

RIII
CP
Papeziello/rr
11/21/83

RIII
JA
Hind
11/21/83

RIII
WBS
Schultz
11-21-83

RIII
J
Davis
11/21

RIII
J
for Keppler
11/21

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Enforcement Coordinators

RI, RII, RIII, RIV, RV

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