

October 5, 1995

"Public"

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

SUBJECT: INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-263/95008(DRP)

Dear Mr. Watzl:

This refers to the routine safety inspection conducted by Messrs. W. Stearns and D. McNeil of this office from August 4 through September 22, 1995. The inspection included a review of activities at the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant authorized by NRC Operating License No. DPR-22. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report.

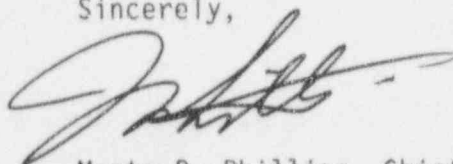
Areas examined during the inspection are identified in the report. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of a selective examination of procedures and representative records, observations, and interviews with personnel. The purpose of the inspection was to determine whether activities authorized by the license were conducted safely and in accordance with NRC requirements.

No violations of NRC requirements were identified during the course of this inspection. Your recent implementation of the Operator Workaround Program to highlight and resolve issues was considered a strength. A weakness was identified concerning construction and operation personnel's failure to identify a leak associated with the phase separator tank pump down. Although present, it was not until the NRC inspector pointed out that a leak had developed that any actions were taken to correct it.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and the enclosed inspection report will be placed in the NRC's Public Document Room.

We will gladly discuss any questions you may have concerning this inspection.

Sincerely,



Monte P. Phillips, Chief  
Reactor Projects Section 2B

Enclosure: Inspection Report  
No. 50-263/95008

Docket No. 50-263

(See Attached Distribution)

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cc w/encl: Plant Manager, Monticello  
John W. Ferman, Ph.D.,  
Nuclear Engineer, MPCA  
State Liaison Officer, State  
of Minnesota

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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION III  
801 WARRENVILLE ROAD  
LISLE, ILLINOIS 60532-4351

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A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Monte P. Phillips".

Monte P. Phillips, Chief  
Reactor Projects Section 2B

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No. 50-263/95008

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(See Attached Distribution)

E. Watzl

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John W. Ferman, Ph.D.,  
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