

JUL 31 1984

Docket No. 50-282
Docket No. 50-306

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

Gentlemen:

Thank you for your letter of July 13, 1984 providing information on the Notice of Deviation attached to Inspection Report 50-282/84-04(DPRP); 50-306/84-04(DPRP).

We disagree with your conclusion, your actions with respect to reactor coolant system vents do not constitute a failure to meet the requirements of the March 27, 1984 license amendment. This amendment very clearly stated that it would not become effective until two very specific conditions were met. The regulatory intent was that the system not be made routinely operational until certain procedural requirements were met. (These systems may, of course, be made operational for any emergencies which would require this.)

The NRC's statement of enforcement policy (47 FR 9987) states:

"Notices of Deviation are written notices describing a licensee's or a vendor's failure to satisfy a commitment where the commitment involved has not been made a legally binding requirement. A Notice of Deviation requests a licensee or vendor to provide a written explanation or statement describing corrective steps taken (or planned), the results achieved, and the date when corrective action will be completed."

We feel we have properly classified your actions on April 11, 1984 as a Deviation. We also believe that your corrective actions on April 12 plus your plans to meet system blocking and tagging requirements are appropriate responses to the Deviation.

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Your cooperation with us is appreciated.

Sincerely,

"Original signed by I. N. Jackiw"

W. D. Shafer, Chief
Projects Branch 2

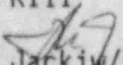
cc: E. L. Watzl, Plant Manager

cc w/ltr dtd 7/13/84:

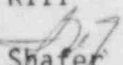
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