



Northern States Power Company

414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401
Telephone (612) 330-5500

August 23, 1984

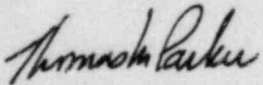
Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U S Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT
Docket Nos. 50-282 License Nos. DPR-42
50-306 DPR-60

Rod Swap Methodology

In the past, control rod reactivity worth has been determined during Physics Testing using the boration/dilution method. Beginning with Unit 2 Cycle 9, we are planning to use the Rod Swap method. We have obtained data on the rod swap method for the last two cycles and have developed acceptance criteria consistent with the acceptance criteria used for the boration/dilution method.

The acceptance criteria and methodology are described in the enclosed topical report, "Rod Swap Methodology NSPNAD-8408", July, 1984. This topical report is provided for your information, since the staff has expressed an interest in this change in methodology. Unit 2 Cycle 9 is scheduled to begin on October 6, 1984. We would be glad to meet with you to explain our rod swap methodology and will make detailed arrangements through our NRC Project Manager in the Division of Licensing if a meeting is desired.

for 
David Musolf
Manager - Nuclear Support Services

DMM/TMP/bd

c: Regional Administrator-III, NRC
NRR Project Manger, NRC
Resident Inspector, NRC
G Charnoff

Enclosure

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