

NOTICE OF DEVIATION

Northern States Power Company
Monticello Nuclear Power Station

Docket Nos. 50-263
License Nos. DPR-22

During an NRC inspection conducted on June 6 through July 20, 1996, deviations from your commitments to Section XI, 1986 Edition of the ASME Code were identified. In accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedure for NRC Enforcement Actions," NUREG-1600, the deviations are listed below:

- A. In an NRC letter dated October 18, 1994, the NRC accepted Northern States Power commitments to follow ASME Code Section XI, 1986 Edition requirements for the third ten-year interval inservice inspection (ISI) program. For ISI plans, paragraph IWA-2420 of Section XI, 1986 Edition of the ASME Code specified that each inspection plan shall include the Edition and Addenda of this Division that apply to the required examinations and tests.

Contrary to the above, on June 6, 1996, the licensee's ISI plan did not include the ASME Section XI, 1989 Edition Table IWB-2500-1 requirements applicable to reactor vessel shell welds.

- B. In an NRC letter dated October 18th, 1994, the NRC accepted Northern States Power commitments to follow ASME Code Section XI, 1986 Edition requirements for the third ten-year interval inservice inspection program. For ultrasonic (UT) examinations of dissimilar metal welds, paragraph III-3411(b) of Appendix III of Section XI, 1986 Edition of the ASME Code specified the following: "If the examination will be conducted from both sides, calibration reflectors shall be provided in both materials."

Contrary to the above, on June 6, 1996, procedure ISI-UT-16, "UT Examination of Welds of Austenitic and High Nickel Alloy Materials," Revision 11, specified that UT examinations conducted from both sides of dissimilar metal welds could be calibrated utilizing reflectors in a single calibration block material. As a result, several UT examinations were completed on dissimilar metal welds utilizing a single calibration block material.

Please provide to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Document Control Desk, Washington, D.C. 20555, with a copy to the Regional Administrator, Region III, and a copy to the NRC Resident Inspector at the facility that is the subject of this Notice, in writing within 30 days of the date of this Notice, (1) the reason(s) for the deviation, (2) the corrective steps which have been taken and the results achieved, (3) the corrective steps which will be taken to avoid further deviations, and (4) the date when your corrective action will be completed. Where good cause is shown, consideration will be given to extending the response time.

Dated at Lisle, Illinois, this
20th day of 1996