

PDR

MAR 17 1976

D. G. Eisenhut, Assistant Director for Operational Technology, DOR

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE REQUEST NO. ORB-2-220

Your assistance is requested in the following:

PLANT NAME: Monticello

DOCKET NO.: 50-263

BRANCH CODE: ORB-2

PROJECT MANAGER: R. P. Snaider (ext. 27403)

OPERATIONAL TECHNOLOGY BRANCH: Plant Systems Branch

REQUESTED COMPLETION DATE: March 29, 1976

BACKGROUND:

By letter dated March 1, 1976, Northern States Power Company (NSP) agreed to initiate measures to maintain a 1 psi drywell-torus differential pressure as an interim means of regaining torus safety margins. Such measures, commenced after plant startup and presently in effect, incorporate the intermittent discharge of nitrogen into the drywell, and the venting of the torus, as necessary to maintain the required Δp , to the Standby Gas Treatment System to remove nitrogen which has bled through vacuum breakers into the torus. This procedure, although effective, requires excessive usage of nitrogen and places an additional burden upon the HEPA filters and charcoal adsorbers of the Standby Gas Treatment System.

DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST:

By letter dated March 11, 1976, a copy of which is attached, NSP has proposed a change to the Technical Specifications to permit the installation of a new containment isolation valve as part of their proposed nitrogen recirculation system. This system will return nitrogen from the torus to the drywell, minimizing nitrogen usage and enhancing the capability to maintain a differential pressure. The submittal must be reviewed to determine system safety, isolability, and ability to function without affecting the operation of safety-related systems.

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The March 11, 1976 NSP submittal contains revised pages to replace those of the January 30, 1976 initial Appendix J submittal (refer to TAR ORB-2-213). These revised pages reflect the addition of the N₂ recirculation system. These need not be reviewed as part of this request, but they should be included in the review associated with TAR ORB-2-213.

Requested Action:

1. Review the NSP March 11, 1976 submittal and determine mechanical adequacy, noting that the containment penetrations already exist, and using the information of the Safety Evaluation on pages 2 and 3 of Exhibit A.
2. Determine adequacy of the electrical isolability of the new valve, referring to page 5 of Exhibit A.
3. Incorporate review of revised pages 153, 154H, and 154J into the review of TAR ORB-2-213.
4. Provide a written safety evaluation report concerning items 1 and 2 above.

Prompt review of this matter is requested consistent with Mr. Rusche's letter of February 27, 1976 to NSP.

Original signed by

Dennis L. Ziemann

Dennis L. Ziemann, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #2
Division of Operating Reactors

Enclosure:
NSP 3/11/76 Submittal

cc: V. Stello
K. R. Goller
R. P. Snaider
R. Diggs
T. J. Carter
A. Schwencer

DISTRIBUTION:

Docket
ORB-2 Reading
DLZiemann

OFFICE	A. Schwencer	DOR:ORB-2	DOR:ORB-2			
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