

NSP**NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY**

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

February 7, 1973

Mr. A. Giambusso
Deputy Director for Reactor Projects
United States Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D. C. 20545

Dear Mr. Giambusso:

MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT
Docket No. 50-263 License No. DPR-22

Failure of #1 Starting System of #12 Diesel Generator

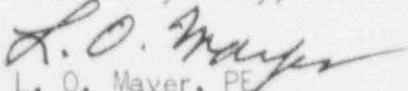
A condition occurred at the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant which we are reporting to your office in accordance with Section 6.6.C.1 of the Technical Specifications, of Provisional Operating License DPR-22.

On January 20, 1973, during routine surveillance testing, the No. 12 Emergency Diesel Generator could not be started manually on the #1 starting system. The #2 starting system was then selected and the engine successfully started.

Observation of the #1 starting system indicated that the starting motors were receiving air but were not cranking the engine. Both air motors of the #1 starting system were removed from the engine and inspected. The air vanes of the lower motor were found to be sticking in the rotor slots. The lower starter motor was replaced with a spare. The upper motor was found to be in good condition. Following re-installation of the motors, the engine was successfully started by the #1 starting system. It should be noted that the malfunction of the No. 1 starting system would not have prevented an automatic diesel start since both starting systems are utilized in the automatic start sequence.

The remaining starting motors on #12 diesel and all the starting motors on #11 diesel were checked to verify free operation of the vanes by manually rotating the starter motors. In all cases free operation was verified.

Yours very truly,



L. O. Mayer, PE
Director of Nuclear Support Services

LOM/mmm

cc: B H Grier
G Charnoff
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency - Attn: Ken Dzigan



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