NSP

NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55401

October 8, 1973

Mr. J F O'Leary, Director
Directorate of Licensing
Office of Regulation
U S Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D C 20545

Dear Mr. O'Leary:

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

Malfunction of the "B" SBGT System Heater

A condition occurred at the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant which we are
reporting to your office in accordance with Section 6.7.B.1, Abnormal Occurrence
Reports, of Appendix A, Technical Specifications, of Provisional Operating License
DPR-22.

On September 29, 1973, while deinerting the primary containment during a scheduled
reactor shutdown, the "B" Standby Gas Treatment (SBGT) System LOW HEAT alarm was
received and indication of low differential temperature was observed. The redun-
dant SBGT train was immediately placed in operation.

Subsequent investigation revealed failure of the 30 amp-600 volt fuse block
assembly in the heater circuit. It was determined that a loose fuse clip on
the fuse block had created a high resistance path resulting in overheating of
the assembly to the point of failure. The fuse block assembly was replaced.
Physical inspection and electrical testing of the heater revealed it to be undam-
aged. An operability test of the "B" SBGT System was satisfactorily performed on
October 2, 1973, prior to reactor startup.

This occurrence did not affect safe operation since the redundant train was fully
operable and within minutes the plant conditions were such that SBGT operability
was not required.

No similar failures have occurred at Monticello. An inspection of the redundant
SBGT train heater circuit was performed and no abnormal conditions noted. It is
felt that the measures taken were sufficient to prevent repetition.

Yours very truly,

L O Mayer, PE
Director of Nuclear Support Services

cc: J G Keppler
     G Charnoff
     Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
       Attn. Ken Dzugan

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