



STATE OF MINNESOTA  
MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY  
459 BOARD OF HEALTH BUILDING  
UNIVERSITY CAMPUS  
MINNEAPOLIS  
55440

December 20, 1968

Mr. Harold L. Price  
Director of Regulations  
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20545

Dear Mr. Price:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letters dated November 19, 1968, regarding 1) information as to a gaseous diffusion plant in Minnesota, and 2) response to my letter of September 3, 1968, regarding various questions submitted by Mr. Steve J. Gadler, with attachments.

Your comments and that of your staff are greatly appreciated and are now being reviewed by members of the Agency, our staff, and also our consultant on radioactivity.

Since the original submission to you of some 80 questions posed by Mr. Gadler, he has drafted an additional 27 questions that bear consideration by the Atomic Energy Commission. I have enclosed a copy of these questions signed by Mr. Gadler and again ask that these be answered in his behalf and as a matter of information to our Agency.

One further question I neglected to ask you at the outset, and for your comment, was a statement that was made by the Congressional Joint Committee on Atomic Energy in the congressional report under date of February 1968, that states: "Until experience is gained and adequate safeguards are proved out, prudence dictates that large reactor installations be fairly far removed from population centers."

If this is true, why, then, was the Monticello nuclear power reactor located only forty miles upstream from the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Area, having a population of approximately two million people, and the water supply for in excess of one million people? Would you please clarify for us the statement as it appeared and is quoted in the Congressional Record?

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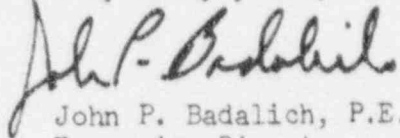
Mr. Harold L. Price  
Washington, D. C.

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12/20/1968

Again I wish to express my appreciation to you and others of the AEC staff for your cooperation in providing the information requested in the past, and I trust that the above request for additional information and answers will be forthcoming in the very near future.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John P. Badalich". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" being particularly prominent.

John P. Badalich, P.E.  
Executive Director

JPB:mmmb  
Enclosure

CONTAMINATION OF ST. PAUL - MINNEAPOLIS AND SUBURBAN WATER SUPPLIES BY  
MONTICELLO AND ELK RIVER ATOMIC REACTORS

- W. J. L. C.*
1. What are the types and amounts of radioactive pollutants that will be discharged into the Mississippi River by the Monticello reactor per day? Per year?
  2. In the event of a serious atomic accident that would contaminate the Mississippi River with radioactive pollutants will AEC provide the Twin Cities water for drinking and industrial purposes?
  3. If not, why did the AEC approve NSP a permit at Monticello?
  4. Is an emergency water supply for the St. Paul and Minneapolis water systems in existing U.S. Atomic Energy Commission plans if the river is contaminated with radioactive pollutants?
  5. Has ~~any~~<sup>a</sup> probable atomic accident at the Monticello reactor that would prevent utilizing Mississippi River water by St. Paul and Minneapolis been discussed with concerned public water officials?
  6. In the event of the emergency in (4) above how will industries dependent upon the Mississippi water stay in operation?
  7. In the event of an atomic or other accident at the Monticello reactor that would pollute the Mississippi River water for all down-river users especially the St. Paul - Minneapolis residents who will pay for the added water costs if an emergency source of water becomes available?
  8. Since the health and safety of the public which includes integrity of the St. Paul - Minneapolis water supplies is a responsibility of the Atomic Energy Commission both by law and its own regulations, how will the Atomic Energy Commission prevent the pollution of the Mississippi River with radioactive pollutants which are a million to a billion times more toxic than any chemical known to man?
  9. Since the Atomic Energy Commission has permitted the construction of the Monticello reactor above the St. Paul and Minneapolis water intakes on the Mississippi River will the Atomic Energy Commission carry out the intent of the congress and prevent the discharging of radioactive materials into the river thereby providing for the health and safety of the down-river residents.
  10. What type of communication networks are to be provided in case of the inevitable atomic accident at the Monticello atomic reactor which would destroy St. Paul - Minneapolis water supplies?
  11. What are the present plans or arrangement for alerting St. Paul - Minneapolis water officials of an accidental discharge of radioactive materials into the Mississippi River at Monticello?

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*11 Questions #27  
by [Signature]*

12. Since the Atomic Energy Commission is responsible for the "health and safety" how will they prevent sabotage of the 250,000 gallon radioactive water retention tanks at Monticello?
13. In the event of sabotage or accidental bursting of the 250,000 gallon radioactive water retention tanks who will advise St. Paul water officials about the accident.
14. Who will advise St. Paul and Minneapolis public officials of the serious radioactive contamination of the river?
15. Who will determine the amount and type of radioactive materials discharged into the river? Who advises who, when and by what means?
16. Since semantics plays such a large role in nuclear literature and terminology and the Atomic Energy Commission refers to serious atomic accidents as incidents or occurrences, is it possible to withhold information affecting the safety and health of people by reporting an atomic accident at Monticello as an incident?
17. Since it is incumbent upon the operation of any atomic facility with this state to make full and complete disclosures concerning types and amounts of radioactive materials to be discharged into the environment, how does NSP intent to provide the information and to whom?
18. Does NSP intend to dilute radioactive materials for discharge into the Mississippi River at the same ratio used by the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission's reactor at Elk River?
19. Does dilution of these radioactive toxic materials that NSP desires to discharge into the St. Paul - Minneapolis water supplies reduce their dangers to the drinking populace?
20. Since dilution of these cumulative types of radiation does not reduce their irreversible characteristics, how can the NSP or the Atomic Energy Commission protect the public health and safety since the populace will be drinking radio active water?
21. What will be saving to the NSP stockholders in KWH produced by the Monticello atomic reactor thru the discharging into the environment and thereby polluting St. Paul and Minneapolis, instead of out-state shipment for burial and perpetual Atomic Energy Commission care?
22. Since radioactive nuclides or radioactive materials are all subject to a law of nature that the rate of physical decay natural to each cannot be altered to make them less radioactive regardless of the amount of dilution or dispersion or deposition, how does the Atomic Energy Commission propose to preserve the environment and prevent the radioactive pollution of the St. Paul - Minneapolis water supplies?
23. Since the Mississippi River is the source of water for St. Paul and Minneapolis and others down-river, why does NSP desire to discharge radioactive wastes into the river?

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24. Since all radiation regardless of the dose is cumulative and irreversible and since the radioactive waste from the atomic reactor at Monticello if discharged into the river will increase substantially, the radioactive dosages to the St. Paul and Minneapolis water users why does NSP want to use the Mississippi River for radioactive waste disposal?

25. Since a long series of small radioactive insults to the human body may accumulate to produce long-delayed serious injury why has the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission affirmed and approved the Monticello atomic reactor that wants to discharge radioactive pollutants into the river and the atmosphere thereby increasing the dosages to down-river residents with its routes of water and atmospheric disposal?

26. Since the most tempting and most economical radioactive disposal route for the Monticello reactor is the Mississippi River, what assurances will the MPCA and down-river water users that NSP is not "riding the river"?

27. Since the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission is not concerned with the integrity of the St. Paul and Minneapolis water supplies, what right do they have to pollute these waters?

*Walter J. Heller*  
*Member Minnesota*  
*Pollution Control Agency*