

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE OF REGULATORY OPERATIONS

REGION III

RO Inquiry Report No. 050-263/72-17Q

Northern States Power Company
414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

License No. DPR-22
Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant
RHR Pump Motor Failure

Prepared By:

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12/19/72
(Date)

A. Date and Manner AEC was Informed:

Telephone call from Monticello Plant representative to RO:III
on December 18, 1972.

B. Description of Particular Event or Circumstance:

The motor which drives one of the four Residual Heat Removal (RHR) pumps failed on December 16 during operation in the shutdown cooling mode. Initial investigation determined that the sheet metal air diffuser in the motor had failed from fatigue cracking originating near the anchor bolt holes. Fragments of the air diffuser caused shorting of the motor windings. Inspection of the remaining RHR motors disclosed two additional air diffusers with cracks initiated. Severity of the cracks was proportional to the operating hours (177 to 1300 hours) on the motors.

Pertinent information relating to the motor is as follows:

Manufacturer:	General Electric
Motor Description:	Vertical, high thrust, polyphase, induction 4160 volt, 3560 RPM, 600 HP
Frame No.:	6329PZ30
Serial No.:	SK6329XC4A
Additional Identification No.:	EDJ522005

C. Action by Licensee:

A reactor startup was terminated for further investigation and repair.
An outage of several days is anticipated.

The licensee plans to report the matter to Licensing within 10 days.