



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

DOCKET
FILE
50-263

June 3, 1997

Mr. Roger O. Anderson, Director
Licensing and Management Issues
Northern States Power Company
414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55401

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR WITHHOLDING INFORMATION FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE
(MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT)

Dear Mr. Anderson:

By your application dated May 2, 1997, and affidavit dated May 5, 1997, you submitted revised information with respect to the four General Electric GE12 lead use assemblies that are included in the Monticello Cycle 18 (Reload 17) core and requested that Northern States Power Company (NSP) report NSPNAD-96001, Rev. 2, dated January 1997 titled "Monticello Cycle 18 Final Reload Design Report (Reload Safety Evaluation," be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790.

Your application did not include a nonproprietary version of this document, and we request that a nonproprietary version be submitted to NRC, within 90 days from the date of this letter, for release to the NRC Public Document Room.

You stated that the submitted information should be considered exempt from mandatory public disclosure for the following reasons:

1. The information discloses a process, method, or apparatus, including supporting data and analyses, where prevention of its use by NSP's competitors without license from NSP constitutes a competitive economic advantage over other companies.
2. The information, if used by a competitor, would reduce his expenditure of resources or improve his competitive position in the design, manufacture, shipment, installation, assurance of quality, or licensing of a similar product.

We have reviewed your application and the material in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 2.790 and, on the basis of your statements, have determined that the submitted information sought to be withheld contains proprietary commercial information.

Therefore, NSP report NSPNAD-96001, Rev. 2, dated January 1997 titled "Monticello Cycle 18 Final Reload Design Report (Reload Safety Evaluation," marked as proprietary, will be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790(b)(5) and Section 103(b) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

Withholding from public inspection shall not affect the right, if any, of persons properly and directly concerned to inspect the documents. If the need

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arises, we may send copies of this information to our consultants working in this area. We will, of course, ensure that the consultants have signed the appropriate agreements for handling proprietary information.

If the basis for withholding this information from public inspection should change in the future such that the information could then be made available for public inspection, you should promptly notify the NRC. You also should understand that the NRC may have cause to review this determination in the future, for example, if the scope of a Freedom of Information Act request includes your information. In all review situations, if the NRC makes a determination adverse to the above, you will be notified in advance of any public disclosure.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Tae Kim, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate III-1
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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cc: See next page

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Mr. Roger O. Anderson, Director
Northern States Power Company

Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant

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