



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

July 17, 1997

Docket
File

50-282/306

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 (PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT) (TAC
NOS. M99108 and M99109)

Dear Mr. Anderson:

By Northern States Power Company's (NSP's) application dated June 26, 1997, and your affidavit dated June 25, 1997, NSP submitted its main steam line break methodology for Prairie Island and requested that Attachment 2, NSPNAD-97002-P, "Northern States Power Company's Steam Line Break Methodology." dated June 1997, be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790. NSP's June 26, 1997, application also contained a nonproprietary version of this report as Attachment 3.

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

1. Disclosure of the information would provide an unfair advantage to competitors.
2. The information on this methodology for the Prairie Island two-loop Westinghouse nuclear plant is not available from public sources and public disclosure is likely to cause harm to NSP's competitive position; NSP expended substantial resources in developing this methodology; and failure to withhold this information would allow others to benefit from it without commensurate expenditures.

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, the version of the submitted information marked as proprietary (Attachment 2 to NSP's June 26, 1997, application) 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 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.

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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,

Beth A. Wetzel

Beth A. Wetzel, 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

Prairie Island Nuclear Generating
Plant

cc:

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Northern States Power Company
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Welch, Minnesota 55089

Plant Manager
Prairie Island Nuclear Generating
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Tribal Council
Prairie Island Indian Community
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