



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION III
801 WARRENVILLE ROAD
LISLE, ILLINOIS 60532-4351

July 17, 1997

Public

Mr. M. Wadley, Vice President
Nuclear Generation
Northern States Power Company
414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55401

SUBJECT: MONTICELLO NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-263/97008(DRP)
AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Wadley:

On July 7, 1997, the NRC completed an inspection at your Monticello reactor facility. The enclosed report presents the results of that inspection.

During the 6-week period covered by this inspection period, your staff's conduct of activities at the Monticello facility was generally characterized by safety-conscious operations, sound engineering and maintenance practices, and careful radiological work controls. The torus draindown activities were conducted in a slow and controlled manner. Careful planning and execution of interior cleaning significantly reduced contamination and radiation exposure.

However, several examples of a violation of NRC requirements were identified. Two examples involved individuals manipulating safety-tagged equipment. Although neither example resulted in personnel or equipment hazards, unauthorized manipulations of equipment is a concern. The other example involved eight cases where controlled drawings did not reflect current plant conditions. These cases indicate a weakness in engineering controls for maintaining accurate and complete drawings.

This violation is cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation, and the circumstances surrounding the violation are described in detail in the enclosed report. Please note that you are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. The NRC will use your response, in part, to determine whether further enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosures, and your response will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR).

Sincerely,

/s/Geoffrey E. Grant, Director

Geoffrey E. Grant, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No. 50-263
License No. DPR-22

Enclosures:

- 1. Notice of Violation
- 2. Inspection Report No. 50-263/97008(DRP)

cc w/encl: Plant Manager, Monticello
John W. Ferman, Ph.D.,
Nuclear Engineer, MPCA
State Liaison Officer, State
of Minnesota

Docket File w/encl
PUBLIC IE-01 w/encl
OC/LFDCB w/encl
SRI Monticello, w/encl
A. B. Beach, w/encl
Deputy RA, w/encl
TSS w/encl
DOCDESK (E-mail)

DRP w/encl
RIII PRR w/encl
Project Manager, NRR w/encl
Prairie Island w/encl
RIII Enf. Coordinator, w/encl
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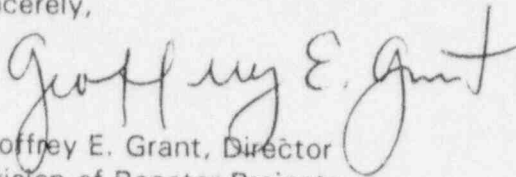
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M. Wadley

-2-

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Sincerely,



Geoffrey E. Grant, Director
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