



Northern States Power Company

Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant  
2807 West Hwy 75  
Monticello, Minnesota 55362-9637

January 22, 1997

10 CFR Part 50  
Section 50.55a

US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Attn: Document Control Desk  
Washington, DC 20555

MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT  
Docket No. 50-263 License No. DPR-22

Response to Request for Additional Information Concerning  
Request for Relief No. 8 for the 3rd 10-Year Interval Inservice Inspection Program

On August 5, 1994 we submitted for review our latest revision of our third 10-year Inservice Inspection Examination Plan for Monticello. By letter dated March 14, 1996, with subject "Request for Relief for the 3rd 10-Year Interval Inservice Inspection Program" (TAC NO. M96255), Monticello submitted Relief Request No. 8 which addressed documentation requirements for calibration blocks.

By letter dated December 9, 1996, the NRC staff requested additional information in order to complete review of the Request for Relief. Attachment A to this letter provides the information requested by the staff.

This letter contains no new NRC commitments, nor does it modify any prior commitments. Please contact Sam Shirey, Sr. Licensing Engineer, at (612) 295-1449 if you require further information.

William J Hill  
Plant Manager  
Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant

- c: Regional Administrator - III, NRC
- NRR Project Manager, NRC
- Sr Resident Inspector, NRC
- Michael T. Anderson, INEL Research Center
- State of Minnesota
- Attn: Kris Sanda
- J Silberg

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Attachment: A: Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant Response to Request for Additional Information Regarding ISI Relief Request No. 8.

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Attachment A  
Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant  
Response to Request for Additional Information Regarding  
ISI Relief Request No. 8

**Requested Information**

*The licensee must state the specific paragraph of the regulations (10 CFR 50.55a) under which the request is submitted and provide supporting justification as discussed below.*

**Monticello Response**

The specific paragraph of the regulation used as a basis for the relief request is 10 CFR 50.55a(a) (3) (ii) which states:

*Compliance with the specified requirements of this section would result in hardship or unusual difficulty without a compensating increase in the level of quality and safety.*

The existing calibration blocks, although not possessing the full documentation currently required by ASME Code Section V Article 4 or Section XI, Appendix III, are acceptable. Existing records indicate they were fabricated from the appropriate P-number grouping material, thereby providing adequate assurance that the blocks will establish the proper ultrasonic calibration and sensitivity.

Purchasing new calibration blocks would be an unnecessary expense that would not result in an increase in the level of quality or safety, and is therefore imprudent.

Any new calibration blocks will be obtained with the documentation necessary to demonstrate compliance with the material specification requirements.