

MAR 07 1986

Docket Nos.: 50-282
and 50-306

Mr. D. M. Musolf
Nuclear Support Services Dept.
Northern States Power Company
414 Nicollet Mall - 8th Floor
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

Dear Mr. Musolf:

SUBJECT: REPORTS ON PRA INSIGHTS - (PRAIRIE ISLAND UNITS 1 AND 2)

Enclosed are two draft reports concerning technical insights gained from Probabilistic Risk Assessments (PRAs). These reports are the outcome of an ongoing effort to make available and utilize in numerous technical and managerial activities the information in PRAs regarding the factors which dominate the risk associated with nuclear power plants. This effort includes identification of the features of design or operational practices which have been found to be important to safety in the types of plants which have been subjected to risk assessments. In addition, the section on insights into PRA methodologies focuses on areas which are sensitive to the results and the overall perception of plant weaknesses and vulnerabilities.

In particular, these reports contain discussions of: general insights on plant strengths and weaknesses gained from PRAs; the contribution to core melt frequency from classes of sequences induced by various initiating events; modifications, both hardware and procedural, which have been implemented to address problems identified in the conduct or as a result of PRAs; insights into PRA methodologies; and the contribution to measures of risk (core melt frequency and consequences of radioactive releases) from systems, components and events.

These reports are being provided to you, as well as all other licensees, in advance of formal publication for your information. Your comments and suggestions are welcome on these reports.

Sincerely,

George E. Lear, Director
Project Directorate #1
Division of PWR Licensing-A

Enclosures:
As Stated

cc: w/o Enclosures
See Next Page

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Prairie Island Nuclear Generating
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