



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

February 3, 1998

Mr. Roger O. Anderson, Director
Nuclear Energy Engineering
Northern States Power Company
414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR WITHHOLDING INFORMATION FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE
(PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT, UNIT 1)
(TAC NO. MA0650)

REF: Letter, Sepp, Henry A., Westinghouse Electric Corp., to Document Control Desk,
USNRC, dated January 14, 1998 (CAW-98-1196)

Dear Mr. Anderson:

By Northern States Power Company's (NSP's) application dated January 15, 1998, and Westinghouse Electric Corporation's affidavit dated January 14, 1998, executed by Mr. Henry A. Sepp, NSP submitted a license amendment request on moveable incore detector thimble reduction for Unit 1 Cycle 19 and requested that Exhibit D, "Prairie Island Unit 1 Cycle 19 Thimble Deletion Study," dated January 6, 1998, be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790. NSP's January 15, 1998, application also provided a nonproprietary version of the document.

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

1. The information reveals the distinguishing aspects of a process (or component, structure, tool, method, etc.) where prevention of its use by any of Westinghouse's competitors without license from Westinghouse 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 a similar product.

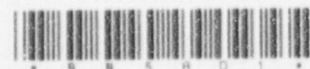
We have reviewed NSP's application and the material in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 2.790 and, on the basis of your statements, have determined that the submitted information sought to be withheld contains proprietary commercial information.

Therefore, the version of the submitted information marked as proprietary (Exhibit D of the January 15, 1998, 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.

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February 3, 1998

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.

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

Beth A. Wetzel, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate III-1
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-282

cc: See next page

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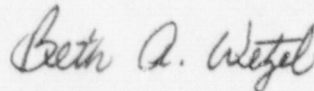
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Sincerely,



Beth A. Wetzel, 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

Mr. Roger O. Anderscn, 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
Plant
Northern States Power Company
1717 Wakonade Drive East
Welch, Minnesota 55089

Tribal Council
Prairie Island Indian Community
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Mr. Henry A. Sepp
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