



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

April 28, 2023

Mr. Christopher P. Domingos  
Site Vice President  
Northern States Power Company – Minnesota  
Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant  
2807 West County Road 75  
Monticello, MN 55362

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR WITHHOLDING INFORMATION FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE  
FOR MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT RE: CORE OPERATING  
LIMITS REPORT (COLR) FOR CYCLE 31, REVISION 2

Dear Mr. Domingos:

By letter dated March 17, 2023, Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation (NSPM, the licensee), doing business as Xcel Energy submitted an affidavit dated March 17, 2023, executed by Kent E. Halac, Senior Engineer, Regulatory Affairs, for Global Nuclear Fuel – Americas, LLC, requesting that the information contained in the following document be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to section 2.390 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR):

Revision 2 of "Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant, Cycle 31, Proprietary, Core Operating Limits Report NAD-MN-050P," dated March 2023

A nonproprietary copy of this document has been placed in the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) Public Document Room and added to the NRC Library in Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) at Accession No. ML23076A291.

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

- (4) Some examples of categories of information which fit into the definition of proprietary information are:
  - a. Information that discloses a process, method, or apparatus, including supporting data and analyses, where prevention of its use by GNF-A's competitors without license from GNF-A constitutes a competitive economic advantage over other companies;
  - b. Information which, 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 of a similar product;

- c. Information which reveals aspects of past, present, or future GNF-A customer-funded development plans and programs, resulting in potential products to GNF-A;
- d. Information which discloses patentable subject matter for which it may be desirable to obtain patent protection.

The information sought to be withheld is considered to be proprietary for the reasons set forth in paragraphs (4)a. and (4)b. above.

- (5) To address 10 CFR 2.390 (b) (4), the information sought to be withheld is being submitted to NRC in confidence. The information is of a sort customarily held in confidence by GNF-A, and is in fact so held. The information sought to be withheld has, to the best of my knowledge and belief, consistently been held in confidence by GNF-A, no public disclosure has been made, and it is not available in public sources. All disclosures to third parties including any required transmittals to NRC, have been made, or must be made, pursuant to regulatory provisions or proprietary agreements which provide for maintenance of the information in confidence. Its initial designation as proprietary information, and the subsequent steps taken to prevent its unauthorized disclosure, are as set forth in paragraphs (6) and (7) following.

We have reviewed your application and the material in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 2.390 and, on the basis of the statements in the affidavit, have determined that the submitted information sought to be withheld contains proprietary commercial information and should be withheld from public disclosure.

Therefore, the version(s) of the submitted information marked as proprietary will be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.390(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.

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.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 301-415-0680 or via email at [Brent.Ballard@nrc.gov](mailto:Brent.Ballard@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Brent T. Ballard, Project Manager  
Plant Licensing Branch III  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-263

cc: Kent E. Halac  
Senior Engineer, Regulatory Affairs  
Global Nuclear Fuel – Americas, LLC  
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Wilmington, NC 28401  
[Kent.Halac@ge.com](mailto:Kent.Halac@ge.com)

cc: Listserv

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