

From: [Brent Ballard](#)
To: [Jacobson, Ronald G.](#); [Miller, Michael A](#)
Cc: [Jeff Whited](#)
Subject: Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant - Acceptance of Relief Request RR-017, Inservice Inspection (ISI) Impracticality During the Fifth Ten-Year Interval (EPID L-2024-LLR-0014)
Date: Monday, March 4, 2024 8:12:00 AM

Good morning,

By letter dated January 30, 2024 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML24033A295), Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation (NSPM, the licensee), doing business as Xcel Energy, submitted a relief request pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Section 50.55a(g)(5)(iii), "ISI program update: Notification of impractical ISI Code requirements," for Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant. Specifically, the relief request is for nozzle-to-vessel weld examinations performed during the 2019, 2021, and 2023 refueling outages where the required coverage could not be obtained when examined to the extent practical due to plant design. The request is applicable for the Fifth Ten-Year ISI Interval.

The purpose of this e-mail is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of this request. The acceptance review was performed to determine if there is sufficient technical information in scope and depth to allow the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review. The acceptance review is also intended to identify whether the application has any readily apparent information insufficiencies in its characterization of the regulatory requirements or the licensing basis of the plant.

The NRC staff has reviewed your application and concluded that it does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed request in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment. Given the lesser scope and depth of the acceptance review as compared to the detailed technical review, there may be instances in which issues that impact the NRC staff's ability to complete the detailed technical review are identified despite completion of an adequate acceptance review. You will be advised of any further information needed to support the NRC staff's detailed technical review by separate correspondence.

Based on the information provided in your submittal, the NRC staff has estimated that this request will take approximately 160 hours to complete. The NRC staff expects to complete this review by December 6, 2024. If there are emergent complexities or challenges in our review that would cause changes to the initial forecasted completion date or significant changes in the forecasted hours, the reasons for the changes, along with the new estimates, will be communicated during routine interactions with the assigned project manager.

These estimates are based on the NRC staff's initial review of the application and they could change, due to several factors including requests for additional information, and unanticipated addition of scope to the review. Additional delay may occur if the submittal is provided to the NRC in advance or in parallel with industry program initiatives or pilot applications.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 301-415-0680 or by e-mail.

Thank you,
Brent

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