



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION III
801 WARRENVILLE ROAD
LISLE, ILLINOIS 60532-4351

November 23, 1999

Mr. M. Wadley
President, Nuclear Generation
Northern States Power Company
414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55401

SUBJECT: MONTICELLO INSPECTION REPORT 50-263/99007(DRP)

Dear Mr. Wadley:

On November 4, 1999, the NRC completed an inspection at the Monticello reactor facility. The enclosed report presents the results of that inspection.

During the 6-week period covered by this inspection, the conduct of operations at the Monticello facility was performed in a safety-conscious manner. Evolutions, such as surveillance tests and routine plant power changes, were well controlled, deliberate, and performed in accordance with procedures. The NRC observed an increased level of awareness associated with operator response to annunciators and application of risk insights to emergent work. However, we are concerned that a strong questioning attitude and rigorous review of requirements were not applied during emergent maintenance activities.

Based on the results of this inspection, the NRC has determined that three violations of NRC requirements occurred. These violations are being treated as Non-Cited Violations (NCVs), consistent with Section VII.B.1.a of the Enforcement Policy. These NCVs are described in the subject inspection report. If you contest the violations or severity level of these NCVs, you should provide a response within 30 days of the date of this inspection report, with the basis for your denial, to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Document Control Desk, Washington DC 20555-0001, with copies to the Regional Administrator, Region III, and the Director, Office of Enforcement, United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington DC 20555-0001.

PDR ADOCK

M. Wadley

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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosure, and your response, if you choose to provide one, will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Sincerely,

/s/ R. D. Lanksbury

Roger D. Lanksbury, Chief
Reactor Projects Branch 5

Docket No. 50-263
License No. DPR-22

Enclosure: Inspection Report 50-263/99007(DRP)

cc w/encl: Site General Manager, Monticello
Plant Manager, Monticello
S. Minn, Commissioner, Minnesota
Department of Public Service

DOCUMENT NAME: G:\MONT\MON99007DRP.WPD

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NAME	Kunowski/sb	MAX	Gardner (M8.1)		Shear <i>WJA</i> for (R1.2,R8.1)		Lanksbury	RSF
DATE	11/19/99		11/19/99		11/19/99		11/23/99	

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M. Wadley

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