



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
REGION III  
2443 WARRENVILLE ROAD, SUITE 210  
LISLE, IL 60532-4352

September 3, 2013

Ms. Karen Fili  
Site Vice President  
Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant  
Northern States Power Company, Minnesota  
2807 West County Road 75  
Monticello, MN 55362-9637

**SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR MONTICELLO NUCLEAR  
GENERATING PLANT (REPORT 05000363/2013006)**

Dear Ms. Fili:

On August 14, 2013, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed its mid-cycle performance review of Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant. The NRC reviewed the most recent quarterly performance indicators (PIs) in addition to inspection results and enforcement actions from July 1, 2011, through June 30, 2012. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of your facility during this period and its plans for future inspections at your facility.

The NRC determined the performance at Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant during the most recent quarter, ending June 30, 2013, was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Action Matrix. On August 28, 2013, the NRC sent you the "Final Significance Determination of a Yellow Finding with Assessment Follow-up and Notice of Violation" (Adams Ascension Number ML13240A435). This letter finalized the significance of one safety significant (i.e. Yellow) finding (with corresponding violation) in the Mitigating Systems Cornerstone. This Yellow finding was associated with the failure to maintain a procedure addressing all of the effects of an external flooding scenario on the plant. Specifically, Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant (Monticello) failed to maintain flood Procedure A.6, "Acts of Nature," such that it could support the timely implementation of flood protection activities within the 12 day timeframe credited in the design basis as stated in the updated safety analysis report. As we stated in Inspection Report 005000263/2013008, your staff has since completed actions to reduce the flood mitigation plan timeline by developing an alternate plan for flood protection features, pre-staging equipment and materials, and revising the associated procedures. These actions were considered sufficient to address the Violation and prevent recurrence. Therefore, this finding does not represent a current safety concern.

Due to having one open Yellow finding in the Mitigating Systems Cornerstone in the second quarter of 2013, the August 28, 2013, Assessment Follow-Up letter advised you that Monticello Nuclear Generating plant was assessed as being in the Degraded Cornerstone Column (Column 3) of NRC's Action Matrix, effective the second quarter of 2013.

Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct a supplemental inspection using Inspection Procedure 95002, "Supplemental Inspection for One Degraded Cornerstone or Any Three White Inputs in a Strategic Performance Area," in addition to ROP baseline inspections at your facility.

The NRC also plans on conducting Temporary Instructions 2515/177 "Managing Gas Accumulation in Emergency Core Cooling, Decay Heat Removal, and Containment Spray Systems (NRC Generic Letter 2008-01)," and 2515/182 "Review of the Implementation of the Industry Initiative to Control Degradation of Underground Piping and Tanks." The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through December 31, 2014. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. The inspections listed during the last nine months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the end-of-cycle performance review. The NRC provides the inspection plan to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues. The NRC will contact you as soon as possible to discuss changes to the inspection plan should circumstances warrant any changes. This inspection plan does not include security-related inspections, which will be sent via separate, non-publicly available correspondence.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records Systems (PARS) component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access And Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Please contact Mr. Ken Riemer at 630-928-9628 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Cynthia D. Pederson  
Regional Administrator

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

Enclosure: Monticello Nuclear Power Station  
Inspection/Activity Plan

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OFFICE	RIII		RIII		RIII		RIII	
NAME	NShah:mvt		KRiemer		KO'Brien		CPederson	
DATE	08/28/13		08/28/13		08/29/13		08/29/13	

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Letter to K. Fili from C. Pederson dated September 3, 2013

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR MONTICELLO NUCLEAR  
GENERATING PLANT (REPORT 05000363/2013006)

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**Monticello**  
**Inspection / Activity Plan**  
**09/01/2013 - 12/31/2014**

Unit Number	Planned Dates		Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
	Start	End			
			<b>BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION</b>		<b>1</b>
1	09/09/2013	09/20/2013	IP 71124.06	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment	
1	09/09/2013	09/20/2013	IP 71124.07	Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program	
1	09/09/2013	09/20/2013	IP 71151-BI01	Reactor Coolant System Activity	
1	09/09/2013	09/20/2013	IP 71151-OR01	Occupational Exposure Control Effectiveness	
1	09/09/2013	09/20/2013	IP 71151-PR01	RETS/ODCM Radiological Effluent	
			<b>BI MODS - TRIENNIAL PERM MODS/50.59</b>		<b>3</b>
1	11/04/2013	11/22/2013	IP 7111117T	Evaluations of Changes, Tests, and Experiments and Permanent Plant Modifications	
			<b>BI OLRQ - BIENNIAL REQUAL PROGRAM INSPECTION</b>		<b>2</b>
1	10/28/2013	11/01/2013	IP 7111111B	Licensed Operator Requalification Program	
			<b>BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION</b>		<b>1</b>
1	01/13/2014	01/17/2014	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
			<b>BI ENG - FIRE PROTECTION INSPECTION &amp; BAG TRIP</b>		<b>5</b>
1	02/17/2014	03/28/2014	IP 7111105T	Fire Protection [Triennial]	
			<b>BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION</b>		<b>1</b>
1	03/24/2014	03/28/2014	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
			<b>BI EPR - EP ROUTINE INSPECTION / PI VERIFICATION</b>		<b>2</b>
1	07/07/2014	07/11/2014	IP 7111402	Alert and Notification System Testing	
1	07/07/2014	07/11/2014	IP 7111403	Emergency Preparedness Organization Staffing and Augmentation System	
1	07/07/2014	07/11/2014	IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies	
1	07/07/2014	07/11/2014	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
			<b>BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION</b>		<b>1</b>
1	08/04/2014	08/08/2014	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
			<b>PI&amp;R - BIENNIAL PI&amp;R INSPECTION</b>		<b>1</b>
1	09/22/2014	10/10/2014	IP 71152B	Problem Identification and Resolution	
			<b>BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION</b>		<b>1</b>
1	10/27/2014	10/31/2014	IP 71124.06	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment	
1	10/27/2014	10/31/2014	IP 71151-BI01	Reactor Coolant System Activity	
1	10/27/2014	10/31/2014	IP 71151-OR01	Occupational Exposure Control Effectiveness	
1	10/27/2014	10/31/2014	IP 71151-PR01	RETS/ODCM Radiological Effluent	
			<b>BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION</b>		<b>1</b>
1	12/08/2014	12/12/2014	IP 71124.08	Radioactive Solid Waste Processing and Radioactive Material Handling, Storage, and Transportation	

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.  
This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.