

December 22, 1999

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

SUBJECT: INSPECTION PLAN - PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT

Dear Mr. Wadley:

On December 1, 1999, the NRC staff reviewed the performance of the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant, as reflected in the performance indicators and inspection results, in order to integrate performance information and to plan for inspection activities at your facility from December 1, 1999, to July 31, 2000. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our plans for future inspections at your facility so that you will have an opportunity to prepare for these inspections and to inform us of any planned inspections which may conflict with your plant activities.

Based on our review of performance at Prairie Island, we identified that the threshold from Green (licensee response band) to White (increased regulatory response band) was crossed for the Emergency Response Organization (ERO) Drill Participation performance indicator in the second quarter of 1999. Following identification of this performance indicator color change by your staff, corrective actions were taken and as of the third quarter 1999, the performance indicator color was again Green. Given that the change in performance indicator color was reviewed as part of a baseline inspection conducted in July 1999, no additional inspections are planned in the ERO Drill Participation area. Based on the results of the July inspection, we concluded that the performance indicator color change from Green to White was the result of a recent change in ERO position assignments that would not have impacted your ability to respond during an emergency. However, we have identified data errors in a number of the performance indicators. We understand that you are in the process of implementing additional controls and oversight of performance indicator data, and based on your efforts, evolving interpretations and definitions for some performance indicators, and the continuing discussions between us, we plan to perform additional baseline inspection using the Performance Indicator Verification procedure during the next 8 months.

Enclosure 1 details the scheduled inspections that will occur from December 1, 1999, to July 31, 2000. Also, we will continue to conduct the resident inspector baseline procedures; although the resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature. The last 4 months of the inspection plan are tentative and the plan may be revised based on the results of the end-of-cycle review meeting. Enclosure 2 is the Plant Issue Matrix that was used as part of the mid-cycle review.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's Rules of Practice, a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

M. Wadley

-2-

If circumstances arise which cause us to change this inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact me at (630) 829-9631 with any questions you may have regarding this letter, the inspection plan, or the Plant Issue Matrix.

Sincerely,

/s/ R. Lanksbury

Roger Lanksbury, Chief
Reactor Projects Branch 5

Docket Nos. 50-282, 50-306
License Nos. DPR-42, DPR-60

Enclosures: 1. Inspection/Activity Plan
2. Plant Issue Matrix

cc w/encls: Site General Manager, Prairie Island
Plant Manager, Prairie Island
S. Minn, Commissioner, Minnesota
Department of Public Service
State Liaison Officer, State of Wisconsin
Tribal Council, Prairie Island Dakota Community

DOCUMENT NAME: G:\PRA\PIPLANNINGLTRFOR12-99

To receive a copy of this document, indicate in the box "C" = Copy without attach/encl "E"
= Copy with attach/encl "N" = No copy

OFFICE	RIII		RIII		RIII			
NAME	Lanksbury/sb		Grobe		Dapas			
DATE	12/ /99		12/ /99		12/ /99			

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Distribution:

CAC (E-Mail)

RPC (E-Mail)

TJK3 (Project Mgr.) (E-Mail)

CHIEF, NRR/DIPM/IIPB

J. Dyer, RIII w/encls

J. Caldwell, RIII w/encls

B. Clayton, RIII w/encls

SRI Prairie Island w/encls

DRP w/encls

DRS w/encls

RIII PRR w/encls

PUBLIC IE-01 w/encls

Docket File w/encls

GREENS

IEO (E-Mail)

DOCDESK (E-Mail)