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OFFICE  
OF  
ADJUDICATION

Office of the Secretary  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

DOCKET NUMBER  
PROPOSED RULE **PR 20**  
(64FR35090)

Attention: Rulemaking and Adjudication Staff

Subject: Release of Solid Materials at Licensed Facilities: Issues Paper,  
Scoping Process for Environmental Issues, and Notice of Public  
Meetings – 64 *Federal Register* 35090 – June 30, 1999

This letter is in response to the request for comment on the referenced issues paper and scoping process and notice of plans for public meetings. It is noted that on October 19, 1999 the comment period was extended to December 22, 1999 (64 *Federal Register* 56274).

Northern States Power Company supports the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's effort to promulgate standards for release of potentially contaminated solid materials from nuclear facilities. We believe that the development of dose-based standards for release of solid materials will be in the best interests of the public as well as the nuclear industry. The basis for this belief is that improved regulations will allow existing resources to be applied to matters of greater safety significance, while maintaining very high "free release" standards.

Northern States Power Company endorses the detailed comments that the Nuclear Energy Institute has developed on behalf of the nuclear power industry in this matter.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Wadley  
President, NSP Nuclear Generation

cc: Paul Genoa (NEI)

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