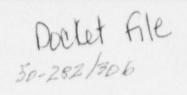


UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 26, 1999



Mr. Roger O. Anderson, Director Nuclear Energy Engineering Northern States Power Company 414 Nicollet Mall Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

SUBJECT:

PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2 -

REQUEST FOR WITHHOLDING INFORMATION FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

(TAC NOS. MA4731/MA4732)

Dear Mr. Anderson:

By your application dated January 29, 1999, and affidavit dated February 1, 1999, you submitted NSPNAD-8102-P, Revision 7, "Prairie Island Nuclear Power Plant Reload Safety Evaluation Methods for Application to PI Units," dated January 1999, and requested that it be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790. A nonproprietary version was submitted for placement in the NRC public document room.

The affidavit stated that the submitted information should be considered exempt from mandatory public disclosure for the following reasons:

Public disclosure of the information sought to be withheld is likely to cause harm to NSP's competitive position; NSP expended substantial resources in developing this methodology; failure to withhold this information would allow others to benefit from it without commensurate expenditures.

We have reviewed your application and the material in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 2.790 and, on the basis of your statements, have determined that the submitted information sought to be withheld contains proprietary commercial information and should be withheld from public disclosure.

Therefore, the version of the submitted information marked as proprietary will be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790(b)(5) and Section 103(b) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

Withholding from public inspection shall not affect the right, if any, of persons properly and directly concerned to inspect the documents. If the need arises, we may send copies of this information to our consultants working in this area. We will, of course, ensure that the consultants have signed the appropriate agreements for handling proprietary information.

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If the basis for withholding this information from public inspection should change in the future such that the information could then be made available for public inspection, you should promptly notify the NRC. You also should understand that the NRC may have cause to review this determination in the future, for example, if the scope of a Freedom of Information Act request includes your information. In all review situations, if the NRC makes a determination adverse to the above, you will be notified in advance of any public disclosure.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, I may be reached at 301-415-1392.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Tae Kim, Senior Project Manager Project Directorate III-1 Division of Licensing Project Management Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-282/50-306

cc: See next page

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Mr. Roger O. Anderson, Director Northern States Power Company

cc:

J. E. Silberg, Esquire Shaw, Pittman, Potts and Trowbridge 2300 N Street, N. W. Washington DC 20037

Plant Manager
Prairie Island Nuclear Generating
Plant
Northern States Power Company
1717 Wakonade Drive East
Welch, Minnesota 55089

Adonis A. Neblett
Assistant Attorney General
Office of the Attorney General
455 Minnesota Street
Suite 900
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-2127

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Resident Inspector's Office 1719 Wakonade Drive East Welch, Minnesota 55089-9642

Regional Administrator, Region III U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission 801 Warrenville Road Lisle, Illinois 60532-4351

Mr. Stephen Bloom, Administrator Goodhue County Courthouse Box 408 Red Wing, Minnesota 55066-0408

Kris Sanda, Commissioner Department of Public Service 121 Seventh Place East Suite 200 St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-2145 Prairie Island Nuclear Generating

Site Licensing
Prairie Island Nuclear Generating
Plant
Northern States Power Company
1717 Wakonade Drive East
Welch, Minnesota 55089

Tribal Council
Prairie Island Indian Community
ATTN: Environmental Department
5636 Sturgeon Lake Road
Welch, Minnesota 55089