History of Dry Fuel Storage Debate in Minnesota

- Early 1990s
  - Certificate of Need granted by MN PUC
  - Court challenge results in dry storage being considered as permanent requiring MN legislature approval
  - MN legislature limited number of casks authorized to 17
  - NRC license issued for 48 casks in 1993
- 2003 MN legislative changes to dry storage laws
  - Grants dry storage capacity sufficient to operate plant until end of initial 40-year license
  - ISFSI storage no longer requires legislative approval
- Certificates of Need granted for dry storage to support plant license renewal – 64 casks at Prairie Island and 30 canisters at Monticello
- State law requires triennial decommissioning plan to provide cost estimates for spent fuel storage for 60, 100 and 200 years after plant shutdown
Prairie Island ISFSI License Renewal

- Site-specific license granted in 1993 with an October 31, 2013 expiration
- ISFSI License Renewal Application filed October 11, 2011
- Prairie Island Indian Community (PIIC) petitioned to intervene on August 24, 2012
- ASLB Order on December 20, 2012 granting Prairie Island Indian Community standing and admitting 3 of 7 contentions submitted
- On October 20, 2014 the PIIC filed a Motion for Leave to File a New Contention after Issuance of the NRC’s Continued Storage of Spent Fuel Final Rule
  - The PIIC contended “… that the NRC owes a “trust responsibility” to Indian Tribes that requires the NRC to go beyond “solely complying with existing statutes and regulations,” by ensuring its actions are in the best interests of PIIC and its members
- ASLB Order on December 23, 2014 denying the new contention

Contentions Admitted

- Contention 2 – Cumulative Impacts of Related ISFSI Projects on PIIC, its members and its lands
  - Cultural and Archaeological Resources Program examined lands where new concrete pads will be added to accommodate additional casks
- Contention 4 – Environmental Justice
  - Cultural and Archaeological Resources Program examined lands where new concrete pads will be added to accommodate additional casks
  - Radiation dose due to sky shine calculated for additional casks
- Contention 6 – Potential Degradation of High Burnup Fuel Due to Aging During Storage
  - Aging Management Program using “toll gates” to assess results of High Burnup Dry Storage Cask Research and Development Project
New Concrete Pad to Accommodate Additional Casks – Future License Amendment Request

Current Status

- The Staff’s current estimate regarding the completion for both its Final Environmental Assessment and Safety Evaluation Report is February, 2015
Questions?