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Point Beach Nuclear Plant
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NPL 2000-0485

November 9, 2000

Document Control Desk
US NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
Mail Station P1-137
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Ladies/Gentlemen:

DOCKET 50-301
STEAM GENERATOR TUBE PLUGGING
POINT BEACH NUCLEAR PLANT, UNIT 2

Inservice examinations of steam generator tubes at Point Beach Nuclear Plant (PBNP) Unit 2 were completed on November 2, 2000. These examinations were conducted in accordance with the requirements of PBNP Technical Specification 15.4.2 during the ongoing Refueling 24 outage.

The PBNP Unit 2 steam generators were replaced in 1996 with Westinghouse Model 47D steam generators containing thermally treated Inconel Alloy 690 tubing. This is the second inservice examination since steam generator replacement. The inspection scope consisted of full length bobbin coil examinations of 100% of the tubes; rotating pancake coil (PlusPoint) examinations of the hot leg expansion transitions in 40% of the tubes and PlusPoint examinations of 20% of the Row 1 U-bends.

PBNP Technical Specification 15.4.2.A.7 requires that, "After each inservice examination, the number of tubes plugged or repaired in each steam generator shall be reported to the Commission as soon as practicable."

There were no tubes plugged in the "A" steam generator. There were two (2) tubes plugged in the "B" steam generator. Tubes at R73C58 and R31C48 were plugged as a result of poor data quality due to excessive tube noise. The tube at location R73C58 exhibited excessive tube noise from the bobbin coil examination, ranging from the hot leg tube end to just below the fourth tube support plate on the cold leg side. The tube at location R31C48 exhibited excessive tube noise from the PlusPoint examination at the hot leg tubesheet expansion transition. Both of these tubes were plugged as a preventive measure as the tube noise could potentially mask or distort the eddy current signal response to indications of degradation.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Cole
Manager, Site Assessment

cc: NRC Regional Administrator
NRC Project Manager

NRC Resident Inspector
PSCW

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