



Nuclear Management Company, LLC
Point Beach Nuclear Plant
6610 Nuclear Road
Two Rivers, WI 54241

NPL 2001-0028

10 CFR 50.55a

February 8, 2001

Document Control Desk
U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
Mail Station P1-17
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Ladies and Gentlemen:

DOCKETS 50-266 AND 50-301
ASME SECTION XI RELIEF REQUESTS
UNIT 1 RR-1-24/UNIT 2 RR-2-30
POINT BEACH NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2

Every ten years licensees are required to update their inservice inspection (ISI) programs to the latest ASME Section XI Code referenced in 10 CFR 50.55a. The updates for Point Beach Nuclear Plant (PBNP) Units 1 and 2, will become effective in mid-2002.

In accordance with 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i), PBNP requests an alternative to the Section XI Code specified in 10 CFR 50.55a(b)(2) for the Fourth Interval. Attached relief requests RR-1-24 and RR-2-30 seek to use the 1998 Edition of ASME Section XI with Addenda through 2000 in lieu of the current Code edition referenced in 10 CFR 50.55a.

Please contact us if there are any questions regarding these relief requests.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Webb
Licensing Director

FAF/jlk

Attachment

cc: NRC Resident Inspector
NRC Project Manager

NRC Regional Administrator
PSCW

A047

NUCLEAR MANAGEMENT COMPANY, LLC
Point Beach Nuclear Plant

Unit 1 Relief Request No. RR-1-24
Unit 2 Relief Request No. RR-2-30

Plants for Which Relief is Requested:

Point Beach Nuclear Plant Unit 1, Commercial Service Date:	Docket 50-266 December 21, 1970
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Pt. Beach Nuclear Plant Unit 2, Commercial Service Date:	Docket 50-301 October 1, 1972
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Code of Federal Regulation and ASME Section XI Requirements:

10 CFR 50.55a(b)(2) - As used in this section, references to Section XI of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code refer to Section XI, Division 1, and include editions through the 1995 Edition and addenda through the 1996 Addenda.

10 CFR 50.55a(g)(4)(ii) - Inservice examination of components and system pressure tests conducted during successive 120-month inspection intervals must comply with the requirements of the latest edition and addenda of the Code incorporated by reference in paragraph (b) of this section 12 months prior to the start of the 120-month inspection interval, subject to the limitations and modifications listed in paragraph (b) of this section.

Relief Requested:

Relief is requested from using the 1995 Edition of ASME Section XI with Addenda through 1996 for the Fourth Interval.

This relief will not be applicable to the IWE/TWL Containment ISI Program or the Inservice Testing Program.

Basis for Relief:

ASME Section XI is an industry consensus document written by industry representatives with NRC involvement. It is constantly evolving to incorporate the latest knowledge and experience of the nuclear industry. This knowledge is gathered by a large range of experts in various technical fields, many of who are able to test some of the ideas in a controlled environment and/or gather data from sources within the nuclear power and similar industries. The information is then thoroughly discussed to determine its validity to inservice inspection. Analytical analysis is performed on many of the ideas to test their validity.

Peer review is performed during the ASME meetings (and often between committee members outside the conferences) to discuss what improvements are needed and if value can be added to all proposed changes. Existing requirements are revisited to determine if they are still valid and if they should be improved, strengthened, or eliminated.

Industry events are brought to the ASME meetings and discussed. This has often led to the incorporation of additional requirements to ensure the focus of inservice inspection is appropriate. This has also refocused inservice inspection requirements to the areas where they are most effective.

The latest editions and addenda of Section XI incorporate all the improvements as approved by the ASME. Many of the Code Cases the NRC has approved have been incorporated. These improvements add value to the ISI process in that they continually refocus the industry on the problem areas and evaluate new developments in technology.

Alternate Requirement:

PBNP Units 1 and 2 will update the ISI Programs for both units to the ASME Section XI Code, 1998 Edition with the 2000 Addenda. The updated ISI Programs will be effective for the Fourth Interval.

Nondestructive examination procedures will be updated to the requirements of the selected Edition of Section XI effective for the Fourth Interval. Examinations performed after the ISI Program update will be to the new procedures.

PBNP will implement the Appendix VIII supplements of the 1998 Edition of Section XI with Addenda through 2000 on the schedule as determined in 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(6)(ii)(C)(1).

Justification of Relief:

Updating to the 1998 Edition with Addenda through 2000 or later Edition of ASME Section XI will allow PBNP to use the latest improvements made to the Code as of the writing of this relief request. The 1998 Edition with Addenda through 2000 has been announced as the possible replacement for the currently referenced 1995 Edition with 1996 Addenda of Section XI in the Code of Federal Regulations. This is anticipated to become effective after the date PBNP selects the edition/addenda from the Code of Federal Regulations.

Implementation Schedule:

The update to the 1998 Edition with Addenda through 2000 or later Edition of ASME Section XI will be effective for the PBNP units 1 and 2 Fourth Ten-Year Intervals, which are scheduled to begin on July 1, 2002.