

SUPPLEMENTAL
FILE COPY

MAY 24 1967

*Excavation Contd/
C.P. & P. & S. file*

Docket No. 50-266

Mr. Alfred Gruhl, President
Wisconsin-Michigan Power Company
231 West Michigan Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Dear Mr. Gruhl:

This is in response to your letter of April 14, 1967, in which you advise the Commission of your intention to perform certain work at the site of the proposed Point Beach Nuclear Plant Unit No. 1 prior to the issuance of a construction permit by the Commission.

You state that prior to the issuance of a construction permit you propose to commence the following types of activities:

- (1) Foundation and other work on the turbine building and other non-nuclear facilities;
- (2) Foundation work for the auxiliary building sump, including sheet piling to permit deep excavation, excavation, placing of forms and reinforcing bar, but not including pouring of concrete;
- (3) Excavation, placing of forms and reinforcing bar and pouring of concrete for the tendon gallery below the main containment mat;
- (4) Following completion of pile driving, pouring of a mud mat below the main containment mat to facilitate construction;
- (5) Placing of forms and reinforcing bar for the main containment mat and other nuclear structures, but not including pouring of concrete.

We have been advised that the sheet piling to be used in the vicinity of the auxiliary building sump is not a part of the permanent facility since it is used solely to prevent collapse of the earthen walls of the excavation during construction prior to a placement of the foundation concrete. In addition, we have been informed that the placing of reinforcing bars for the concrete of the auxiliary building foundation and the containment structure mat will involve no work other than joining and welding the rods as described in the application. We understand that the mud mat is a

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toroidal shaped mat of unreinforced concrete approximately 8-feet thick which will be below the containment structure mat. This mass of concrete is used in lieu of compacted fill and will perform no structural purpose since the pilings penetrate this mat to support the weight of the containment structure.

Based on this information, we agree that the work described in Items 1, 2, 4, and 5 involves site preparation or construction of non-nuclear facilities which is permitted prior to the issuance of a construction permit by Section 50.10(b) of the Commission's regulations. We also agree that the excavation and placing of forms as described in Items 2, 3, and 5 is permissible under Section 50.10(b) in advance of the issuance of a construction permit.

In our view, the tendon gallery below the main containment mat is part of the permanent facility and directly related to its safe operation, and accordingly, pouring concrete for any part thereof prior to the issuance of a construction permit is proscribed by Section 50.10(b) of the Commission's regulations. If you desire an exemption to the requirements of 50.10(b), please submit a design description of the tendon gallery in sufficient detail so that we can make the required conclusion that the granting of an exemption is authorized by law, will not endanger life or property or the common defense and security, and is otherwise in the public interest.

If you have any questions concerning the foregoing, or if you wish to meet to discuss these matters, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

Original Signed by
Peter A. Morris

Peter A. Morris, Director
Division of Reactor Licensing

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