

Docket Nos. 50-266
and 50-301

DEC 19 1986

Mr. C. W. Fay, Vice President
Nuclear Power Department
Wisconsin Electric Power Company
231 W. Michigan Street, Room 308
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201

Dear Mr. Fay:

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ON APPENDIX R EXEMPTION

Re: Point Beach Nuclear Plant

Enclosed is a copy of an "Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact" for your information. This Assessment relates to your application dated April 28, 1983 as supplemented October 26, 1983, December 11, 1985, May 9, 1986 and October 10, 1986 for exemption from the requirements of Appendix R to 10 CFR Part 50 for the Point Beach Nuclear Plant Units 1 and 2.

The Assessment has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

/s/
George E. Lear, Director
Project Directorate #1
Division of PWR Licensing-A

Enclosure:
Environmental Assessment

cc's: See Next Page

*SEE PREVIOUS CONCURRENCE

Office:	LA/PAD#1*	PM/PAD#1	PWR-A	OG <i>aml</i>	PD/PAD#1 <i>for</i>	AD/PWR-A <i>ms</i>
Surname:	PShuttleworth	TColburn/tg	ERossi	WShields	GLear	TNovak
Date:	08/26/86	08/27/86	09/15/86	08/15/86 <i>12</i>	08/16/86	08/1/86

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Mr. C. W. Fay
Wisconsin Electric Power Company

Point Beach Nuclear Plant
Units 1 and 2

cc:

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WISCONSIN ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY

POINT BEACH NUCLEAR PLANT

DOCKET NOS. 50-266 AND 50-301

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an exemption from the technical requirements of Appendix R to 10 CFR Part 50 to Wisconsin Electric Power Company (the licensee), for the Point Beach Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2, located in Manitowoc County, Wisconsin.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of Proposed Action:

The Exemption would allow alternatives to the following requirements of 10 CFR Part 50 Appendix R, Section III.G:

1. Service Water Pump Room, Elevation 7 feet 0 inch, to the extent that 20 feet separation free of intervening combustibles is not provided in this zone pursuant to III.G.2.b.
2. Residual Heat Removal Pump Fire Zone, Elevation -19 feet 3 inches, to the extent that an automatic fire suppression system is not installed within this zone pursuant to III.G.2.b.
3. Auxiliary Building Fire Area, Elevations -19 feet 3 inches; -5 feet 3 inches; 8 feet; 26 feet; and 46 feet, to the extent that an automatic fire suppression system is not installed throughout the area pursuant to III.G.2.b.

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4. Auxiliary Building, Elevation 46 feet, to the extent that a 3-hour fire rated floor barrier is not provided in the central part of the zone pursuant to III.G.2.a.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed Exemption is needed because the features described in the licensee's request regarding the existing level of fire protection and proposed modifications at the plant are the most practical method of meeting the intent of Appendix R and literal compliance would not significantly enhance the fire protection capability.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The proposed Exemption would provide a degree of fire protection equivalent to that required by Appendix R such that there would be no increase in the risk of fires at this facility. Consequently, the probability of fires would not be increased and the post-fire radiological releases would not be greater than previously determined. Neither would the proposed Exemption otherwise affect radiological plant effluents. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed Exemption.

With regard to potential non-radiological impacts, the proposed Exemption involves features located entirely within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. It does not affect non-radiological plant

effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant non-radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed Exemption.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action:

Since we have concluded that the environmental effects of the proposed action are negligible, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impacts need not be evaluated.

The principal alternative would be to deny the requested Exemption. This would not reduce the environmental impacts or significantly enhance the fire protection capability in meeting the intent of Appendix R.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action does not involve the use of resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement related to the operation of the Point Beach Nuclear Plant Units 1 and 2.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

The NRC staff reviewed the licensee's request and did not consult other agencies. The staff did retain Franklin Research Center as a consultant during the review of the proposed Exemption.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

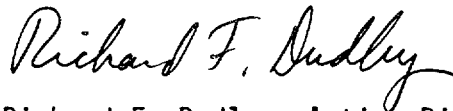
Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, we conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed Exemption.

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For further details with respect to this action, see the application for Exemption dated April 28, 1983, and the supplements dated October 26, 1983, December 11, 1985, May 9, 1986 and October 10, 1986 which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., and at the Joseph P. Mann Library, 1516 Sixteenth Street, Two Rivers, Wisconsin.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland, this 19th day of December, 1986.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Richard F. Dudley".

Richard F. Dudley, Acting Director
Project Directorate #1
Division of PWR Licensing-A

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