

July 3, 1995

Mr. Robert E. Link, Vice President
Nuclear Power Department
Wisconsin Electric Power Company
231 West Michigan Street, Room P379
Milwaukee, WI 53201

SUBJECT: POINT BEACH NUCLEAR PLANT, UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2 - ENVIRONMENTAL
ASSESSMENT RELATED TO THE ISSUANCE OF AN EXEMPTION FROM CERTAIN
TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS OF APPENDIX R TO 10 CFR PART 50
(TAC NOS. M90066 AND M90067)

Dear Mr. Link:

Enclosed is a copy of the Environmental Assessment and Finding of No
Significant Impact related to your application for exemption dated August 5,
1994, as supplemented by letters dated September 9, 1994, October 31, 1994,
and February 28, 1995. The proposed exemption would allow three new cable
trays, which were installed as part of the diesel generator addition project,
to remain in place in the auxiliary feedwater pump fire area.

The assessment is being forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for
publication.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Allen G. Hansen, Project Manager
Project Directorate III-3
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-266
and 50-301

Enclosure: Environmental Assessment

cc w/encl: See next page

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Allen G. Hansen", is written over a horizontal line.

Allen G. Hansen, Project Manager
Project Directorate III-3
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-266
and 50-301

Enclosure: Environmental Assessment

cc w/encl: See next page

Mr. Robert E. Link, Vice President
Wisconsin Electric Power Company

Point Beach Nuclear Plant
Unit Nos. 1 and 2

cc:

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Chairman
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Madison, Wisconsin 53702

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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
6612 Nuclear Road
Two Rivers, Wisconsin 54241

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WISCONSIN ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY
DOCKET NOS. 50-266 AND 50-301
POINT BEACH NUCLEAR PLANT
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF
NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an exemption from certain technical requirements of Appendix R to 10 CFR Part 50 for operation of Point Beach Nuclear Plant, Unit Nos. 1 and 2, located in Manitowoc County, Wisconsin (Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-24 and DPR-27, respectively, issued to Wisconsin Electric Power Company, the licensee).

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of the Proposed Action:

The proposed action would grant an exemption from Section III.G.2.b of Appendix R to 10 CFR Part 50, to the extent that it requires the separation of redundant trains of safe shutdown cables and equipment by a horizontal distance of more than 20 feet, with no intervening combustibles, in the auxiliary feedwater pump fire area.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for exemption dated August 5, 1994, as supplemented by letters dated September 9, 1994, October 31, 1994, and February 28, 1995.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed action is needed to allow three new cable trays, which were installed as part of the diesel generator addition project, to remain in place in the auxiliary feedwater pump fire area. Intervening combustibles in the form of cable fill in these cable trays are located within the separation space between redundant trains of cables and equipment required to achieve and maintain safe shutdown after a fire.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed action and concludes that the action is acceptable because the plant configuration, administrative controls, and the fire protection provided for the auxiliary feedwater pump area gives reasonable assurance that equipment and cabling required to achieve and maintain safe shutdown will remain operable following a fire in the area, as required by Appendix R.

The change will not increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of any effluents that may be released offsite, and there is no significant increase in the allowable individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed action does involve features located entirely within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. It does not affect nonradiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action:

Since the Commission has concluded there is no measurable environmental impact associated with the proposed action, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impact need not be evaluated. As an alternative to the proposed action, the staff considered denial of the proposed action. Denial of the application would result in no change in current environmental impacts. The environmental impacts of the proposed action and the alternative action are similar.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement for Point Beach.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

In accordance with its stated policy, on May 31, 1995, the staff consulted with the Wisconsin State official, Ms. Sarah Jenkins, of the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Based upon the environmental assessment, the Commission concludes 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 action.

For further details with respect to the proposed action, see the licensee's letter dated August 5, 1994, as supplemented by letters dated September 9, 1994, October 31, 1994, and February 28, 1995, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, The Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public

document room located at the Joseph P. Mann Library, 1516 Sixteenth Street,
Two Rivers, Wisconsin 54241.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 3rd day of July 1995.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Douglas V. Pickett, Acting Director
Project Directorate III-3
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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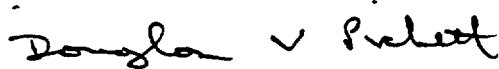
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Two Rivers, Wisconsin 54241.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 3rd day of July 1995.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Douglas V. Pickett".

Douglas V. Pickett, Acting Director
Project Directorate III-3
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation