

NRC 2003-0020

10 CFR 2.202

March 3, 2003

Secretary, Office of the Secretary of the Commission
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff
Washington, DC 20555

POINT BEACH NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2
DOCKETS 50-266 and 50-301
LICENSE NOS. DPR-24 AND DPR-27
RESPONSE TO ORDER EA-03-009, "ISSUANCE OF ORDER ESTABLISHING INTERIM
INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS FOR REACTOR PRESSURE VESSEL HEADS AT
PRESSURIZED WATER REACTORS"

By letter dated February 11, 2003, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued Order EA-03-009, "Issuance of Order Establishing Interim Inspection Requirements for Reactor Pressure Vessel Heads at Pressurized Water Reactors." Nuclear Management Company, LLC (NMC) hereby consents to Order EA-03-009 as written.

NMC made the following commitments in response to Bulletin 2002-02, "Reactor Pressure Vessel Head and Vessel Head Penetration Nozzle Inspection Programs," by letter dated September 12, 2002.

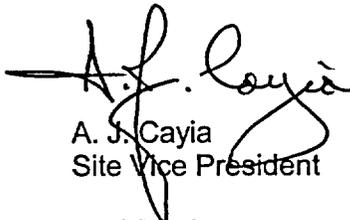
1. NMC will conduct supplemental ultrasonic (UT) examinations of the vessel head penetration (VHP) nozzle base material during the next scheduled refueling outage for Point Beach Nuclear Plant (PBNP) Units 1 and 2, currently scheduled for September 2002 and September 2003, respectively.
2. NMC will conduct a supplemental ultrasonic leak path examination of the interference fit region of VHP nozzles during the next refueling outage for PBNP Unit 1 and 2, currently scheduled for September 2002 and September 2003, respectively.
3. NMC will perform a dye penetrant examination on the J-groove weld wetted surface of all VHPs for PBNP Units 1 and 2 during the next scheduled refueling outage for each unit under the following scenarios:
 - If relevant visual indication of leakage suspected to originate from the VHP annulus is observed and cannot be confirmed as originating from the VHP nozzle base material by UT examination; or
 - When UT of the tube and leak path exam cannot be performed and bare metal visual examination is not available to confirm the absence of a leak.

4. NMC will perform a supplemental visual examination of the VHP to reactor pressure vessel (RPV) junction at the top of the current RPV heads by examining through access ports during each future refueling outage for PBNP Unit 1 and 2.
5. NMC will provide details to the NRC regarding any changes to the planned PBNP Unit 2 RPV head and VHP penetration inspection program no later than three months prior to start of the Fall 2003 refueling outage.

SUMMARY OF COMMITMENTS

As a result of the obligations contained in Order EA-03-009, NMC rescinds commitments 1, 2, 3 and 4, and commitment 5 is hereby met. This letter contains no new commitments.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and accurate. Executed on March 3, 2003.



A. J. Cayia
Site Vice President

RDS/kmd

cc: Regional Administrator, USNRC, Region III
Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Assistant General Counsel for Materials Litigation and Enforcement
Project Manager, USNRC, NRR
NRC Resident Inspector, Point Beach Nuclear Plant
Document Control Desk