NMC
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Point Beach Nuclear Plant
Operated by Nuclear Management Company, LLC

Date: December 22, 2003

NPL 2003-0292
10 CFR 54

Mr. J. Michael Blaska
Team Leader
Division of Intergovernmental Relations
Wisconsin Department of Administration
P. O. Box 7864
Madison, WI 53707-7864

SUBJECT: License Renewal Application for Point Beach Nuclear Plant
Federal Consistency Certification For Federal Permit And License Applicants[1]

References: 1) *NRR Office Instruction No. LIC-203. "Procedural Guidance for Preparing Environmental Assessments and Considering Environmental Issues." U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation. June 21, 2001.*

2) *Wisconsin Coastal Management Program: A Strategic Vision for the Great Lakes. State of Wisconsin. Department of Administration. June 1999. Available at http://www.doa.state.wi.us/dir/documents/programdocument.pdf*

Dear Mr. Blaska:

Nuclear Management Company[2], LLC (NMC), is assessing the requirements for renewing the operating licenses for Point Beach Nuclear Plant (PBNP), Units 1 and 2. The results of this assessment will be contained in an application to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to renew the operating licenses. We are contacting you to obtain your feedback regarding our Coastal Management consistency certification. The NRC is the federal agency responsible for reviewing and approving nuclear plant License Renewal Applications. As part of that application, the NRC recommends that

1 This certification is patterned after the draft model certification included as Appendix E of Reference 1.
2 NMC holds the operating license for PBNP, and is applying for a renewed PBNP operating license. Wisconsin Electric Power Company (WEPCO) doing business under the name We Energies owns the plant and retains exclusive rights to electricity generated at the plant.

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each applicant make advanced contact with other state and federal agencies, including those agencies responsible for coastal zone management. Each agency assessment will be included in the records established as part of the License Renewal Application review by the NRC.

The current operating licenses for Units 1 and 2 expire in 2010 and 2013, respectively. The renewal term would be for an additional 20 years beyond the original license expiration date. PBNP is located on the western shore of Lake Michigan in Manitowoc County in east-central Wisconsin. Manitowoc County is one of fifteen counties that comprise the coastal zone of Wisconsin (Reference 2).

The Federal Coastal Zone Management Act (16 USC 1451 et seq.) imposes requirements on an applicant for a federal license to conduct an activity that could affect a state's coastal zone. The Act requires the applicant to certify to the licensing agency that the proposed activity would be consistent with the state's federally approved coastal zone management program. The Act also requires the applicant to provide to the state a copy of the certification statement. In addition the Act requires the state, at the earliest practicable time, to notify the federal agency and the applicant whether the state concurs or objects to the consistency certification (See USC 1456(c)(3)(A)).

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has promulgated implementing regulations that indicate that the certification requirement is applicable to renewal of federal licenses for activities not previously reviewed by the state [15 CFR 930.51(b)(1)]. The State of Wisconsin has a federally approved coastal management program (Appendix E of Reference 1). The Wisconsin Department of Administration administers the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program and has identified enforceable regulatory authorities that comprise the program. Therefore, NMC has prepared a draft consistency certification with Wisconsin Coastal Management Program and has enclosed a copy of that draft certification.

If there are any concerns that need to be addressed regarding our draft consistency certification with Wisconsin Coastal Management Program, please contact us as soon as possible. To ensure that your written comments are included in our License Renewal Application filing with the NRC, we would appreciate your response to us by late January, 2004. We will include the consistency certification, a copy of this letter, and, if available, your response as part of our License Renewal Application. Your response is very important in this application process.

The State of Wisconsin Coastal Management Program will be notified when the consistency certification is submitted to the NRC as part of the License Renewal Application for the Point Beach Nuclear Plant.

Please contact Sue Schumacher of We Energies at 414-221-2189 or Roger Newton, NMC License Renewal Project Manager, at 920-755-6522 if you have any questions or require any additional information.

Sincerely,

A. J. Cayia
Site Vice-President, Point Beach Nuclear Plant
Nuclear Management Company, LLC

Enclosure: Consistency Certification

cc: Sue Schumacher
Dave Weaver
Kris McKinney