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Rules & Directives

July 13, 2004

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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

5/13/04

69FR 26624

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To Whom It May Concern:

I'm writing in support of the We Energies' Point Beach license renewal application. As one of the largest financial institutions in the state of Wisconsin, we employ approximately 5,000 people in the Greater Milwaukee area. As economic and environmental issues continue to be in the forefront of today's electric power needs, we believe the success of our business and our operations are dependent on the continued operation of affordable and reliable energy.

With the energy demand in Wisconsin continuing to grow at a steady rate of 2.5 to 3 percent, it is critical to Northwestern Mutual that We Energies continue to meet our energy needs by utilizing the most economical and responsible energy sources available. As planning continues for meeting future energy needs, I believe that the energy produced at Point Beach Nuclear Plant should remain a part of the state's balanced energy portfolio.

In the past, we have enjoyed affordable energy rates in Wisconsin because of an efficient and diversified generation base. If nuclear power is no longer part of that energy mix, businesses throughout the state could be faced with serious economic issues and the potential for new businesses coming into the area will be limited.

Please consider these comments and the important role that nuclear power plays in the success of our business and the success of the state's economy. Thank you for this opportunity to participate in this needed process.

Sincerely,

Edward J. Zore

FRIDS = ADM-03

Call = S. Imboden (SXF)

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