

we energies

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Milwaukee, WI 53203  
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February 17, 2005

Ms. Janel Smith  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
2661 Scott Tower Drive  
New Franken, WI 54229

Dear Ms. Smith:

Based on our recent discussions regarding a framework for monitoring Piping Plovers, I am revising the recommendations contained in my report of October 13, 2004, "Piping Plover Habitat on We Energies Property near the Point Beach Nuclear Plant (PBNP)". Based on the earlier survey and our recent discussions, we commit to the following monitoring framework:

1. No measures will be taken to enhance habitat suitability along the stretch of beach owned by We Energies near the PBNP;
2. An annual Piping Plover breeding census will be conducted at this location between June 1 and June 15, with a target date of June 10 over the term of the new license;
3. The International Piping Plover Breeding Census (IPPBC) guidelines will be followed, and an IPPBC individual census report will be completed each year;
4. The Green Bay office of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Bureau of Endangered Resources will be contacted on the same day that Piping Plovers are found nesting at this location;
5. Contacts with the natural resource agency staffs described in 4. will be used to discuss beach access on the property, measures to protect the nest, and additional monitoring requirements of the nest site;
6. If Piping Plovers are found nesting at this location, follow up surveys will be conducted in the same year; earlier and repeated surveys will be conducted the next year, continuing for as long as Piping Plovers nest at this location.

I look forward to your written concurrence at your earliest convenience regarding the revised monitoring framework.

Sincerely,

Noel J. Culright, PhD  
Senior Terrestrial Ecologist  
We Energiescc: Stacey Imboden - NRC  
Jim Knorr - NMC  
Kris McKinney - We Energies