

March 29, 2005

EA 05-021

Mr. Craig W. Lambert
Site Vice President
Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant
Nuclear Management Company, LLC
N490 Hwy 42
Kewaunee, WI 54216-9511

SUBJECT: REGULATORY CONFERENCE TO DISCUSS A PRELIMINARY GREATER THAN GREEN FINDING (NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-305/2004-09) - KEWAUNEE CONTAINMENT EQUIPMENT HATCH INTERFERENCE

Dear Mr. Lambert:

This letter refers to the public meeting conducted on March 17, 2005, at 2:15 p.m. Central Standard Time, at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission Region III office in Lisle, Illinois. The purpose of the Regulatory Conference was for the Nuclear Management Company, LLC (NMC) to provide its perspective on the significance of the preliminary greater than Green inspection finding at the Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant related to the Containment Equipment Hatch Interference issue.

In addition, the Regulatory Conference was an opportunity for NMC to provide any revised or new information associated with the original risk analysis, and any other information related to the finding. The preliminary greater than Green inspection finding was discussed in Inspection Report 50-305/2004-09 issued on February 14, 2005, and by letter dated February 18, 2005.

At the Regulatory Conference, your staff presented an overview of the event, related corrective actions, and the methodology and results of your independent safety assessment of the preliminary greater than Green finding. During the meeting, your staff also provided risk analysis results which were used in your independent safety assessment. Your staff's presentation also included a discussion, based upon the additional information presented, that it is your view that the finding would be more properly characterized as Green, that is, a finding of very low safety significance. The NRC and NMC staffs held extensive discussions regarding specific technical issues related to your analysis. Topics discussed included containment habitability analysis, as well as the availability of personnel for the closure of the containment hatch.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rule of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

A listing of principal NMC and NRC attendees and the handouts provided by NMC at the Regulatory Conference are attached as Enclosures 1 and 2 to this letter. Enclosure 3 contains the information presented by the NRC staff. Supporting risk assessment and plant response documentation submitted by NMC can be found in ADAMS (Accession Number ML050820207 and ML050810497, respectively).

You will be advised of our final decision in this matter by separate correspondence. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at (630) 829-9866.

Sincerely,

/RA by Raymond Ng Acting for /

Thomas Kozak, Team Leader
Technical Support Section
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No. 50-305
License No. DPR-43

Enclosures: 1) List of Principal Attendees
2) NMC Handout
3) NRC Handout

cc w/encls: J. Cowan, Executive Vice President,
Chief Nuclear Officer
Plant Manager
Manager, Regulatory Affairs
J. Rogoff, Vice President, Counsel & Secretary
D. Molzahn, Nuclear Asset Manager,
Wisconsin Public Service Corporation
L. Weyers, Chairman, President and CEO,
Wisconsin Public Service Corporation
D. Zellner, Chairman, Town of Carlton
J. Kitsembel, Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

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REGULATORY CONFERENCE PRINCIPAL ATTENDEES
March 17, 2005

NMC

Craig Anderson	Senior Vice-President
Craig Lambert	Site Vice-President
Kevin Davison	Plant Manager
Edward Weinkam	Director, Regulatory Services
Thomas Breene	Systems Engineering Manager
Theodore Maloney	Licensing Engineer
George Baldwin	PRA Engineer
Edward Coen	PRA Engineer
John Holly	Design Engineer
Jim Callaghan	Manager, Bigge Power Constructions
Rick Ofstun	Westinghouse Engineer

NRC

James Caldwell	Regional Administrator
Mark Satorius	Director, Division of Reactor Projects
Tom Kozak	Team Leader, TSS, Division of Reactor Projects
Kenneth O'Brien	Team Leader, EICS, Region III
Patrick Higgins	Resident Inspector - Kewaunee
Laura Kozak	Senior Reactor Analyst, Division of Reactor Safety
Raymond Ng	Reactor Engineer, Division of Reactor Projects
Douglas Starkey	Enforcement Specialist, Office of Enforcement