

December 14, 2005

Mr. Dennis L. Koehl
Site Vice President
Point Beach Nuclear Plant
Nuclear Management Company, LLC
6610 Nuclear Road
Two Rivers, WI 54241

SUBJECT: POINT BEACH NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2 - WITHDRAWAL OF RELIEF
REQUEST 15 FROM THE PROVISIONS OF ASME CODE, SECTION XI,
IWA-5244, "BURIED COMPONENTS" (TAC NOS. MC7770 AND MC7771)

Dear Mr. Koehl:

By letter to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), dated January 21, 2005, you submitted a request for relief for Point Beach Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2 (PBNP), from certain requirements of the 1998 Edition through the 2000 Addenda of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers *Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code* (ASME Code), Section XI, IWA-5244, "Buried Components," for the fourth inservice interval in accordance with the provision of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, Section 50.55a(a)(3)(ii).

By letter dated October 14, 2005, you requested to withdraw the relief request because an evaluation performed by your staff determined that PBNP is in compliance with the ASME Code for the fourth inservice interval. In your letter you stated that the only practical testing method is to apply ASME Code, Section XI, IWA-5244(b)(2), which stipulates a test to confirm flow during operation is not impaired, because the butterfly valves that are part of the PBNP service water system were not designed for leak-tight isolation of the system. After further review, the NRC staff has concluded that IWA-5244(b)(2) can not be applied because it is only applicable to nonisolable buried components and the PBNP service water configuration does not meet the intent of this provision. Therefore, the NRC staff has closed out its review of the above relief request and associated TAC Nos. MC7770 and MC7771.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact me at (301) 415-4018.

Sincerely,

/RA by Fred Lyon for/

Harold K. Chernoff, Sr. Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch III-1
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-266 and 50-301

cc: See next page

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Point Beach Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2

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