

December 28, 2005

Mr. Dennis L. Koehl  
Site Vice President  
Point Beach Nuclear Plant  
Nuclear Management Company, LLC  
6590 Nuclear Road  
Two Rivers, WI 54241-9516

SUBJECT: POINT BEACH NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1 & 2  
NRC INITIAL LICENSE EXAMINATION  
REPORT 05000266/2005301(DRS); 05000301/2005301(DRS)

Dear Mr. Koehl:

On November 18, 2005, the NRC completed initial operator licensing examinations at your Point Beach Nuclear Plant. The enclosed report documents the results of the examination which were discussed on November 18 and November 23, 2005, with Mr. D. Koehl and Mr. M. Lorek, and with other members of your staff.

The NRC examiners administered the operating test during the week of November 7 to 10 and November 14 to 17, 2005. NRC examiners and members of the Point Beach Nuclear Power Plant Training Department staff administered the written examination on November 18, 2005. Five Reactor Operator (RO), four Senior Reactor Operator-Instant (SRO-I) and two Senior Reactor Operator-Upgrade (SRO-U) applicants were administered license examinations. The results of the examinations were finalized on December 19, 2005. All eleven applicants passed all sections of their examinations and five operator and five senior operator licenses were distributed.

During the NRC's review of initial license applications, one senior operator applicant was granted eligibility deferments so that the applicant could take the examination. This applicant will need to complete a minimum of 6 months onsite responsible power plant experience before he will receive a license. The applicant will be granted a license only after you certify in writing to the NRC that the applicant has completed the eligibility requirement that was previously deferred.

In accordance with 10 CFR Part 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure 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).

We will gladly discuss any questions you have concerning this examination.

Sincerely,

***/RA N. Valos acting for/***

Hironori Peterson, Chief  
Operations Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-266; 50-301  
License Nos. DPR-24; DPR-27

- Enclosures:
1. Operator Licensing Examination  
Report 050000266/2005301(DRS);  
05000301/2005301(DRS)
  2. Simulation Facility Report
  3. Written Examinations and Answer  
Keys (RO & SRO)

cc w/encls 1 & 2:

F. Kuester, President and Chief  
Executive Officer, We Generation  
J. Cowan, Executive Vice President  
Chief Nuclear Officer  
D. Cooper, Senior Vice President, Group Operations  
J. McCarthy, Site Director of Operations  
D. Weaver, Nuclear Asset Manager  
Plant Manager  
Regulatory Affairs Manager  
Training Manager  
Site Assessment Manager  
Site Engineering Director  
Emergency Planning Manager  
J. Rogoff, Vice President, Counsel & Secretary  
K. Duveneck, Town Chairman  
Town of Two Creeks  
Chairperson  
Public Service Commission of Wisconsin  
J. Kitsembel, Electric Division  
Public Service Commission of Wisconsin  
State Liaison Officer

cc w/encls 1, 2, & 3: C. Sizemore, Training Manager

We will gladly discuss any questions you have concerning this examination.

Sincerely,

***/RA N. Valos acting for/***

Hironori Peterson, Chief  
Operations Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No. 50-266, 50-301  
License No. DPR-24, DPR-27

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cc w/encls 1 & 2:

F. Kuester, President and Chief Executive Officer, We Generation  
 J. Cowan, Executive Vice President Chief Nuclear Officer  
 D. Cooper, Senior Vice President, Group Operations  
 J. McCarthy, Site Director of Operations  
 D. Weaver, Nuclear Asset Manager  
 Plant Manager  
 Regulatory Affairs Manager  
 Training Manager  
 Site Assessment Manager  
 Site Engineering Director  
 Emergency Planning Manager  
 J. Rogoff, Vice President, Counsel & Secretary  
 K. Duvleneck, Town Chairman  
 Town of Two Creeks  
 Chairperson  
 Public Service Commission of Wisconsin  
 J. Kitsembel, Electric Division  
 Public Service Commission of Wisconsin  
 State Liaison Officer

cc w/encls 1, 2, & 3: C. Sizemore, Training Manager

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U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION III

Docket No: 50-266, 50-301

License No: DPR-24; DPR-27

Report No: 050000266/2005301(DRS)  
050000301/2005301(DRS)

Licensee: Nuclear Management Company, LLC

Facility: Point Beach Nuclear Plant

Location: 6612 Nuclear Road  
Two Rivers, WI 54241-9516

Dates: October 17 through November 18, 2005

Examiners: R. K. Walton, Chief Examiner  
N. Valos, Examiner  
C. Moore, Examiner

Approved by: H. Peterson, Chief  
Operations Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

Enclosure 1

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

ER 05000266/2005301(DRS); ER 05000301/2005301(DRS) 10/17/2005-11/18/2005;  
Point Beach Nuclear Plant; Initial License Examination Report.

The announced operator licensing initial examination was conducted by regional examiners in accordance with the guidance of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 9.

### Examination Summary:

- Eleven examinations were administered (five Reactor Operator, four Senior Reactor Operator-Instant and two Senior Reactor Operator-Upgrade).
- All eleven applicants passed all sections of their examinations, ten of these applicants were issued respective operator or senior operator licenses. One SRO applicant license was withheld pending his completion of responsible power plant experience.

## REPORT DETAILS

### 4. OTHER ACTIVITIES (OA)

#### 4OA5 Other

##### .1 Initial Licensing Examinations

###### a. Examination Scope

The NRC examiners conducted an announced initial operator licensing examination during the weeks of November 7, 2005, and November 14, 2005. The NRC examiners used the guidance established in NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 9, to review the examination outline and to review the written examination and operating test. The NRC examiners and members of the Point Beach Nuclear Power Plant (PBNPP) Training Department administered the written examination on November 18, 2005. Five Reactor Operator (RO), four Senior Reactor Operator-Instant (SRO-I), and two Senior Reactor Operator-Upgrade (SRO-U) applicants were examined.

###### b. Findings

###### Written Examination

The licensee developed the written examination. During their internal review, the NRC examiners determined that the examination, as submitted, was within the range of acceptability expected for a proposed examination. Written examination comments developed during review by the Point Beach staff, and as a result of examination validation were incorporated into the written examination in accordance with the guidance contained in NUREG-1021.

On November 23, 2005, the licensee discussed post-examination editorial comments with the NRC examiner which had no effect on the content or grading of the written examinations. In addition, two questions were changed during the written examination due to improper noun names; however, there were no official post-examination comments.

###### Operating Test

The NRC examiners determined that the operating test, as originally submitted by the licensee, was within the range of acceptability expected for a proposed examination. The examiners validated the operating test during the validation week and modified several items in the proposed operating test. Test changes, agreed upon between the NRC and the licensee, were made in accordance with NUREG-1021 guidelines.

## Examination Results

Eleven applicants passed all sections of their examinations. Ten of these applicants were issued respective operator or senior operator licenses. One SRO applicant has had his license withheld pending his completion of responsible power plant experience.

### .2 Examination Security

#### a. Examination Security Scope

The NRC examiners briefed the facility contact on the NRC's requirements and guidelines related to examination physical security (e.g., access restrictions and simulator considerations). The examiners observed the implementation of examination security and integrity measures (e.g., security agreements) throughout the examination process.

#### b. Findings

No findings were noted in this area. The licensee staff was observed to be enforcing correct examination security procedures.

### 4OA6 Meetings

#### .1 Exit Meeting

The chief examiner presented the examination team's preliminary observations and findings on November 18 and November 23, 2005, to Mr. D. Koehl and other members of the Operations and Training Department staff. The purpose of the re-exit was to acknowledge the receipt and review of the licensee's post-examination comments on the written examinations. The licensee acknowledged the observations and findings presented. No proprietary information was identified by the station's staff during the exit meetings.

ATTACHMENT: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

## **SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

### **KEY POINTS OF CONTACT**

#### Licensee

D. Koehl  
J. Schweitzer  
M. Lorek  
F. Forrest  
R. Grazio  
C. Hill

Site Vice President  
Engineering Director  
Plant Manager  
Nuclear Oversight Manager  
Regulatory Compliance Manager  
Operations Training Supervisor

#### NRC

H. Peterson  
G. Gibbs

Branch Chief, Operator Licensing Branch  
Resident Inspector

### **ITEMS OPENED, CLOSED, AND DISCUSSED**

#### Opened, Closed, and Discussed

None

## LIST OF ACRONYMS USED

|       |   |
|-------|---|
| ADAMS | Agency-Wide Document Access and Management System |
| DRS   | Division of Reactor Safety                        |
| NRC   | Nuclear Regulatory Commission                     |
| PARS  | Publicly Available Records                        |
| RO    | Reactor Operator                                  |
| SRO   | Senior Reactor Operator                           |

**SIMULATION FACILITY REPORT**

Facility Licensee: Point Beach Nuclear Power Plant

Facility Docket No.: 50-266; 50-301

Operating Tests Administered: November 7 - November 17, 2005

The following documents observations made by the NRC examination team during the initial operator license examination. These observations do not constitute audit or inspection findings and are not, without further verification and review, indicative of non-compliance with 10 CFR 55.45(b). These observations do not affect NRC certification or approval of the simulation facility other than to provide information which may be used in future evaluations. No licensee action is required in response to these observations.

During the conduct of the simulator portion of the operating tests, the following items were observed:

| ITEM                                      | DESCRIPTION  |
|---|--|
| Plant Process Computer (PPCS)             | The plant process computer locked up during Scenario 1, Operating Examinations 1 and 2.  |
| N31 Source Range Operator Selector Switch | During onsite validation, when the Operator Select Switch was returned to the Normal position from the Level Adjust Position, the High Flux in Shutdown annunciator in the control room did not clear. Simulator operators operated the switch numerous times and the condition did not repeat. Believed that infrequently operated switch developed an oxide layer on contacts. |

**WRITTEN EXAMINATIONS AND ANSWER KEYS (RO/SRO)**

RO/SRO Initial Examination ADAMS Accession #ML053610151.