



January 7, 2011

NRC 2011-0004
10 CFR 50.90

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

Point Beach Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2
Dockets 50-266 and 50-301
Renewed License Nos. DPR-24 and DPR-27

License Amendment Request 261
Extended Power Uprate
Response to Request for Clarification

- References: (1) FPL Energy Point Beach, LLC letter to NRC, dated April 7, 2009, License Amendment Request 261, Extended Power Uprate (ML091250564)
- (2) NRC electronic mail to NextEra Energy Point Beach, LLC, dated December 30, 2010, Phone Call with EMCB

NextEra Energy Point Beach, LLC (NextEra) submitted License Amendment Request (LAR) 261 (Reference 1) to the NRC pursuant to 10 CFR 50.90. The proposed amendment would increase each unit's licensed thermal power level from 1540 megawatts thermal (MWt) to 1800 MWt, and revise the Technical Specifications to support operation at the increased thermal power level.

Via Reference (2), the NRC staff determined that additional information is required to enable the staff's continued review of the request. Enclosure 1 provides the NextEra response to the NRC staff's request for clarification.

This letter contains no new Regulatory Commitments and no revisions to existing Regulatory Commitments.

The information contained in this letter does not alter the no significant hazards consideration contained in Reference (1) and continues to satisfy the criteria of 10 CFR 51.22 for categorical exclusion from the requirements of an environmental assessment.

In accordance with 10 CFR 50.91, a copy of this letter is being provided to the designated Wisconsin Official.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.
Executed on January 7, 2011.

Very truly yours,

NextEra Energy Point Beach, LLC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Larry Meyer". The signature is stylized with a large, looped initial "L" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Larry Meyer
Site Vice President

Enclosure

cc: Administrator, Region III, USNRC
Project Manager, Point Beach Nuclear Plant, USNRC
Resident Inspector, Point Beach Nuclear Plant, USNRC
PSCW

ENCLOSURE 1

NEXTERA ENERGY POINT BEACH, LLC POINT BEACH NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2

LICENSE AMENDMENT REQUEST 261 EXTENDED POWER UPRATE RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION

The NRC staff determined that additional information was required (Reference 1) to enable the Mechanical and Civil Engineering Branch to complete the review of License Amendment Request (LAR) 261, Extended Power Uprate (EPU) (Reference 2). The following information is provided by NextEra Energy Point Beach, LLC (NextEra), in response to the NRC staff's request for clarification.

Clarification Request 4a

- a) *NextEra indicated that the EPU structural reanalysis of pipe supports used a 1.5 allowable stress factor for the Faulted condition. This implies that for structural steel 1.5 stress allowable increase was used to qualify shear stresses also. This is in violation with the PBNP FSAR which indicates a 1.33 multiplier for shear stresses allowable for the Faulted condition. In addition, the 1.5 and 1.33 multipliers are for NF pipe supports, as the FSAR states on the table referenced by the licensee (Table A.5-3). Are the current licensing and design basis BOP pipe supports designed to NF or AISC? If designed to NF or if the licensee chooses to apply NF criteria for the EPU reanalysis of pipe supports, have all of the NF requirements been met?*
- b) *For pipe supports that NextEra proposes to use the 1.5 stress allowable multiplier, what multiplier (if any) do the currently existing pipe support design calculations use? If none, NextEra should adhere to their current licensing and design basis.*

NextEra Response

Balance of plant (BOP) pipe supports are designed to the American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC) Code. However, faulted load conditions are not explicitly covered by AISC. As a result, the structural reanalysis of BOP pipe supports used a 1.5 allowable stress factor for the faulted load condition. This 1.5 allowable stress factor is part of the existing Point Beach Nuclear Plant (PBNP) design basis. As discussed with the NRC reviewer during a teleconference held January 4, 2011, this is not contrary to the PBNP final safety analysis report (FSAR) criterion. Prior to EPU, there was no faulted load condition and no fluid transient loads considered in the evaluations of main steam and feedwater system pipe supports. For EPU, the main steam and feedwater pipe supports were evaluated to address the potential impact of fluid transient loads. When evaluating these fluid transient loads as part of a Faulted load condition, the 1.5 allowable stress factor was used consistent with the existing PBNP design basis.

Clarification Request 4b

For reanalysis of pipe support existing welds (at EPU loads), has the allowable of electrode E70xx been used? If affirmative, please verify whether documentation exists which shows the use of E70xx electrode.

NextEra Response

For the reanalysis of pipe support existing welds at EPU loads, the allowable value of electrode E70xx has not been used. The evaluation of existing pipe supports containing existing structural welds used an allowable normal weld stress value of 18,000 psi, based on E60xx electrodes.

References

- (1) NRC electronic mail to NextEra Energy Point Beach, LLC, dated December 30, 2010, Phone Call with EMCB
- (2) FPL Energy Point Beach, LLC letter to NRC, dated April 7, 2009, License Amendment Request 261, Extended Power Uprate (ML091250564)