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Mr. Victor Stello				DATE RECEIVED 6/15/77			
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WISCONSIN PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATION



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P.O. Box 1200, Green Bay, Wisconsin 54305

## REGULATORY DOCKET FILE COPY

Division of Operating Reactors U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D. C. 20555

ATTN: Mr. Victor Stello Director

Dear Mr. Stello:

REF: Docket No. 50-305 Operating License DPR-43 Spent Fuel Pool Modification

Because of uncertainties in the availability of future fuel reprocessing facilities and long-term storage/disposal facilities, and the unavailability of other interim storage/disposal facilities, Wisconsin Public Service Corporation plans to increase the storage capacity of the spent fuel pool at the Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant to prevent a shortage of spent fuel storage capacity. As the plant has been operating since 1974, the proposed method of accomplishing this increase is to install high density spent fuel storage racks of smaller center-to-center spacing between assemblies, utilizing neutron absorbing material to maintain the required shutdown margin. There are currently 80 spent fuel assemblies stored in the spent fuel pools, which were discharged from two past refuelings. This leaves space for 88 fuel assemblies which is not sufficient for a full off load of the core should it be required. Thus, the need for this modification is apparent. It should be noted, however, that a full core unload is not required by the present in-service inspection program plans until 1984 and that such an unload is not contemplated in the next two refuelings for any other reason.

The proposed schedule for installation of the high density storage racks is also discussed in the attachment. As the schedule indicates, rack installation is to be completed by Fall of 1978 to receive discharged fuel assemblies from the 1979 refueling. To meet this schedule, NRC approval of the proposed spent fuel pool modification by October 15, 1977, is requested. A formal request for approval, which will include a safety analysis and an environmental impact evaluation of the proposed modification, will be submitted on or before July 15, 1977. U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Page 2 June 7, 1977

It is our intent that this submittal will be responsive to the NRC concerns on spent fuel pool modifications and other concerns specific to the Kewaunee Plant which may affect the approval of this modification. To meet this intent, we request a meeting with appropriate members of the NRC staff as soon as practical to discuss general requirements and other NRC concerns affecting the proposed modification. We believe that such a meeting can be beneficial in smoothing the review of this proposed modification. To this end, we will be contacting NRC Division of Operating Reactors through Mr. Neighbors of your staff to arrange such a meeting.

Very truly yours,

E. W. James Senior Vice President Power Supply & Engineering

EWJ:sna

Attach.