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SUBJECT: Application for amend to license DPR-43, proposing changes to TS by incorporating line item improvement to section 5, "Design Features."

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December 7, 1993

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Attention Document Control Desk Washington, D.C. 20555 10 CFR 50.90

#### Gentlemen:

Docket 50-305
Operating License DPR-43
Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant
Proposed Amendment 122 to the Kewaunee
Nuclear Power Plant Technical Specifications

References: 1) Supplement 1 to Generic Letter 90-02, "Alternative Requirements for Fuel Assemblies in the Design Features Section of Technical Specifications" dated July 31, 1992

This proposed amendment (PA) is being submitted to incorporate a line item improvement to Section 5, "Design Features," of the Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant (KNPP) Technical Specifications (TS). This change is consistent with guidance provided by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) in Reference 1. This change to the TS will provide flexibility in the repair of fuel assemblies containing damaged and leaking fuel rods by reconstituting the assemblies.

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Attachment 1 to this letter contains a description, a safety evaluation, a significant hazards determination, and environmental considerations for the proposed changes. Attachment 2 contains the affected TS pages.

In accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 50.30(b), this submittal has been signed and notarized. A complete copy of this submittal has been transmitted to the State of Wisconsin as required by 10 CFR 50.91(b)(1).

Sincerely,

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Clark R. Steinhardt Senior Vice President - Nuclear Power

BJD

Attach.

cc - US NRC - Region III
US NRC Senior Resident Inspector
Mr. R. S. Cullen, PSCW

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Subscribed and Sworn to Before Me This 7<sup>th</sup> Day

of December 1993

Notary Public, State of Wisconsin

My Commission Expires:

June 18, 1995

## ATTACHMENT 1

TO

Letter from C. R. Steinhardt (WPSC)

to

Document Control Desk (NRC)

Dated

December 7, 1993

PROPOSED TS AMENDMENT NO. 122

Description of Changes, Safety Evaluation,
Significant Hazards Determination,
and Environmental Considerations

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### **Description of Proposed Changes**

This Proposed Amendment (PA) is being submitted to modify the requirements for "Fuel Assemblies" in the "Design Features" section of the Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant (KNPP) Technical Specifications (TS) in accordance with Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Generic Letter 90-02, Supplement 1.

Specifically, the proposed change is as follows:

1) A paragraph is being added to TS 5.3.a.1 which states,

"Limited substitutions of zirconium alloy or stainless steel filler rods for fuel rods, in accordance with NRC-approved applications of fuel rod configurations, may be used. Fuel assemblies shall be limited to those fuel designs that have been analyzed with applicable NRC staff-approved codes and methods and shown by tests or analyses to comply with all fuel safety design bases. A limited number of lead test assemblies that have not completed representative testing may be placed in nonlimiting core regions."

Additional changes being proposed include:

- A change to TS 5.3.a.4 to update previous wording which described the use of burnable poison rods in the initial core. This paragraph is being revised to state that burnable poison rods are incorporated into reload cores as well.
- 3) The conversion of TS Section 5 to the Word Perfect format and the correction of minor typographical and format inconsistencies.

# Safety Evaluation for Proposed Changes

This proposed change provides for the flexibility in the repair of fuel assemblies containing damaged and leaking fuel rods by reconstituting the assemblies, provided an NRC-approved methodology is used. This change is consistent with guidance provided by NRC Generic Letter 90-02, Supplement 1. The use of an NRC-approved application ensures appropriate safety issues have been evaluated, therefore, there is no effect on public health or safety.

The change to TS 5.3.a.4 and the conversion of Section 5 to the Word Perfect format are administrative in nature; therefore, there is no effect on public health and safety.

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### Significant Hazards Determination for Proposed Changes

The proposed changes were revised in accordance with the provision of 10 CFR 50.92 to show no significant hazards exist. The proposed changes will not:

involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated.

This proposed change to the requirements for "Fuel Assemblies" in the "Design Features" section of the KNPP TS will not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated. This proposed change will not result in modifications to fuel assemblies that would have a significant effect on safety because of the requirement to implement these changes using an NRC-approved methodology. This requirement will confirm conformance to existing design limits and confirm that safety analyses criteria are met before operation during the next fuel cycle. This license amendment request is consistent with guidance provided by the NRC and will result in flexibility for improved fuel performance.

2) create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated.

The creation of a new or different kind of accident from any previously evaluated accident is not considered a possibility because the changes are administrative in nature and do not represent an actual modification to the plant or change to its safety analyses.

3) involve a significant reduction in the margin of safety.

The margin of safety is maintained by adherence to other fuel related TS limits and the USAR design bases. The changes do not directly affect any safety system or the safety limits, and thus does not affect the plant margin of safety.

Accordingly, these proposed changes do not involve a significant hazards consideration.

#### **Environmental Considerations**

WPSC has determined that this proposed amendment involves no significant hazards considerations and no significant change in the types of any effluents that may be released offsite and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. Accordingly, this proposed amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(11). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b), no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with this proposed amendment.