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SUBJECT: Informs NRC of mod to proposed reactor vessel surveillance capsule withdrawal schedule.

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March 23, 1994

10 CFR 50, App. H

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

Ladies/Gentlemen:

Docket 50-305  
Operating License DPR-43  
Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant  
Modification to Proposed Reactor Vessel Surveillance Capsule Withdrawal Schedule

- References:
- 1) Letter from C R Steinhardt (WPSC) to NRC Document Control Desk dated February 17, 1989.
  - 2) Letter from C R Steinhardt (WPSC) to NRC Document Control Desk dated May 27, 1992.

This letter is to inform the NRC of a modification to the proposed reactor vessel surveillance capsule withdrawal schedule. By letter dated February 17, 1989 (reference 1), Wisconsin Public Service Corporation (WPSC) informed the NRC of the proposed reactor vessel surveillance capsule schedule for the Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant (KNPP). Since that time, the neutron exposure projections were recalculated based on recent implementation of a low leakage core design at fuel cycle 16 through cycle 22 and the future implementation of a lower leakage core design (or other methods that will result in lower neutron exposure) at cycle 23 and all subsequent fuel cycles. These changes to the vessel exposure projections require modification of the proposed withdrawal schedule in order to obtain the best representation of end of life fluence.

The basis for removal of the next surveillance capsule is to represent the end of life fluence at the vessel ID surface. Reference 2 projects an end of design life fluence of  $3.17 \times 10^{19}$  n/cm<sup>2</sup> and  $3.31 \times 10^{19}$  n/cm<sup>2</sup>, respectively for 32 and 34 EFPY. At the end of the current cycle of

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operation, KNPP will have a calculated fluence of approximately  $2.044 \text{ E}19 \text{ n/cm}^2$  at the vessel ID surface. Lead factors for the remaining surveillance capsules are 2.04(T) and 1.91 (S and N). Corresponding fluence seen by capsule T is  $4.17 \text{ E}19 \text{ n/cm}^2$  and the fluence seen by capsules S and N is  $3.90 \text{ E}19 \text{ n/cm}^2$ . Thus, surveillance capsules S and N provide a better representation of end of life fluence than capsule T since their exposure is closest to the projected end of life fluence.

Following review of the above fluence values for the remaining surveillance capsules with respect to the calculated end of life fluence for the vessel ID surface, WPSC intends to remove either capsule S or N instead of capsule T during our upcoming refueling outage. The 1994 refueling outage is scheduled to begin on April 1.

Because the lead factors for capsule N and capsule S are identical, removal of either of these surveillance capsules during Kewaunee's 1994 refueling outage will fulfill the requirements of 10 CFR 50, Appendix H. Following analysis of the removed capsule, either capsule N or capsule S, WPSC will inform the NRC of the remaining capsule withdrawal schedule in the report covering the analysis of the capsule removed this year.

Sincerely,



C. A. Schrock  
Manager - Nuclear Engineering

CAT/san

Attach.

cc - US NRC Region III  
US NRC Senior Resident Inspector

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