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SUBJECT: Provides requested info re recent field experience w/W Alloy
 600 thermally treated mechanical plugs.

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January 26, 1995

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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Ladies/Gentlemen:

Docket 50-305
Operating License DPR-43
Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant
Response to NRC Staff Request on Alloy 600 Steam Generator Mechanical Plugs

The following information is provided as requested by the NRC staff in response to recent field experience with Westinghouse Alloy 600 Thermally Treated (TT) mechanical plugs. This letter serves to provide the staff with the Wisconsin Public Service Corporation's (WPSC) intended response to this latest field data and a schedule for submitting our action plan to the NRC.

In December 1994, Westinghouse notified WPSC of recent field experience with Alloy 600 TT mechanical plugs that necessitated a revision to the corrosion algorithm presented in WCAP-12244 Rev 3. This revision in the corrosion algorithm affects our previously developed schedule and action plan for addressing all remaining Alloy 600 TT mechanical plugs in service in the Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant (KNPP) steam generators (SG). Westinghouse has communicated to us that they intend to issue Addendum 3 to WCAP-12244 Rev. 3 in January 1995. In the interim, we have reviewed the original Justification for Continued Operation provided to us by Westinghouse and concluded that it continues to apply. We believe that the issue is being effectively managed by the industry and that the issue does not pose an immediate safety concern to the health and welfare of the public.

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At present, KNPP has a total of 156 Westinghouse Alloy 600 TT mechanical plugs in service in the steam generators which have not been repaired. Of the total population, there are 29 hot leg plugs and 127 cold leg plugs. None of these plugs are present in tubes where plug top release may lead to tube perforation since the KNPP SGs are a partial depth expansion and do not possess the requisite conditions for tube perforation as a result of plug top release.

We plan to formally issue to the NRC staff 30 days prior to our next scheduled refueling outage, currently scheduled for April 1, 1995, our detailed actions with respect to addressing the remaining installed plugs. In preparing our response we will review Addendum 3 of WCAP-12244 Rev. 3 to determine its impact on our previous response to NRC IE Bulletin 89-01. We understand that our options are to repair or replace the plugs by the date calculated by the revised corrosion algorithm, or to provide technical justification for deferral of actions beyond these dates.

One final note is that our actions above are consistent with the action plan defined in NRC IE Bulletin 89-01 and its supplements. This action plan applies only to Alloy 600 TT mechanical plugs. Previously repaired Alloy 600 TT mechanical plugs are not affected by the revised corrosion algorithm.

If you have any questions or need additional information please contact a member of my staff.

Sincerely,



C. A. Schrock
Manager - Nuclear Engineering

SLB/san

cc - US NRC Region III
US NRC Senior Resident Inspector