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MARCHI, M.L. Wisconsin Public Service Corp.
RECIP. NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
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SUBJECT: Apprises NRC of plans w/regard to continued safe operation of plant & insp interval for SG tubing. Due to extended outage duration, no longer planning to shutdown in fall to perform SG tube insp.

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WISCONSIN PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATION

600 North Adams • P.O. Box 19002 • Green Bay, WI 54307-9002

July 1, 1997

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

Ladies/Gentlemen:

Docket 50-305
Operating License DPR-43
Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant
Planned Operating Cycle Length for the Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant

Reference: Letter from M.L. Marchi (WPSC) to U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)
dated October 30, 1996.

The purpose of this letter is to keep the NRC staff apprised of Wisconsin Public Service Corporation (WPSC) plans with regard to the continued safe operation of the Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant (KNPP) and inspection interval for the steam generator tubing. By letter dated October 30, 1996, we notified the NRC staff of our intentions to perform a steam generator tube inspection in the Fall of 1997. When this commitment was made we anticipated having the KNPP back in operation by late December of 1996.

As discussed with the NRC staff during a number of meetings, the refueling and maintenance outage extended well beyond its scheduled duration due to difficulties encountered when repairing the hybrid expansion joint (HEJ) sleeved steam generator tubes that had parent tube indications (PTIs). In order to perform the extensive tube repairs required, the KNPP was not back in operation until June 12, 1997. Due to this extended outage duration we are no longer planning to shutdown this fall to perform a SG tube inspection.

WPSC is in the process of evaluating the optimal time for scheduling the next plant shutdown for refueling, SG tube inspection, and maintenance and testing of the plant components. This evaluation will consider the projected end-of-cycle condition of the SG tubing, the condition of the reactor fuel, requirements for inspection and maintenance of other plant components, other regulatory commitments, local power supply availability and economics. This evaluation will be completed by September 1, 1997.

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July 1, 1997

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We will provide additional information to the NRC staff on our outage schedule once this evaluation is complete. We also recognize the need to revise the SG tube inspection frequency specified in KNPP Technical Specification 4.2.b.3.b. The basis for revising the inspection frequency will be submitted once the aforementioned evaluation is finalized. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me or a member of my staff.

Sincerely,



for M. L. Marchi
Manager - Nuclear Business Group

SLB

cc - US NRC, Region III
US NRC Senior Resident Inspector