



**Wisconsin Electric** POWER COMPANY  
231 W. MICHIGAN, P.O. BOX 2046 MILWAUKEE, WI 53201

December 31, 1979

Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
Washington, D. C. 20555

Attention: Mr. A. Schwencer, Chief  
Operating Reactors Branch 1

Gentlemen:

DOCKET NOS. 50-266 AND 50-301  
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION CHANGE REQUEST NO. 60  
OPERATION AT 2000 PSIA PRIMARY SYSTEM PRESSURE  
POINT BEACH NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2

In our letter of November 23, 1979, we discussed a number of operating and testing activities which were intended to minimize further steam generator tube degradation of Unit 1 at Point Beach. Among the operating items, we reviewed the reduction in primary system operating pressure from 2250 psia to 2000 psia, as proposed in our application for license amendments dated November 2, 1979. In that application, we indicated the lower operating pressure would reduce stresses on many primary system components, including steam generator tubes.

The Commission's Confirmatory Order of November 30 incorporated the special operating and testing requirements for Unit 1, except for the lower pressure operation. We now understand that the NRC Staff would prefer to include low pressure primary system operation for Unit 1 in an amendment to the November 30 Confirmatory Order in Docket 50-266. This would consolidate the several related items concerning Unit 1 steam generator tube matters in one Commission Order.

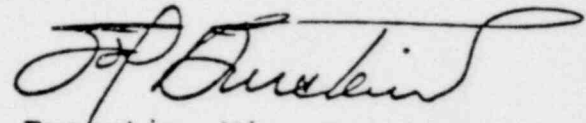
We have no objection to the NRC Staff proposal in this regard. The technical information in our application of November 2, 1979 together with supplementary data in our letters of December 14 and 21, 1979, remain valid and can be relied upon in your evaluation of reduced primary system operating pressure.

In consideration of the Staff's preference in this matter, we would withdraw our November 2, 1979 request for license amendment. We would anticipate receiving the Commission's amended Confirmatory

Order authorizing lower pressure operation for Unit 1 as a further step in minimizing steam generator tube problems.

Please advise us if you require further information.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sol Burstein". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Executive Vice President

Sol Burstein

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE COMMISSION

In the Matter of	)	Docket Nos. 50-266
WISCONSIN ELECTRIC POWER	)	
COMPANY	)	Amendment to Operating
(Point Beach Nuclear Plant,	)	License No. DPR-24
Units 1 and 2)	)	(Reduction of Primary
	)	System Pressure)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of "NRC STAFF RESPONSE TO PETITION FOR LEAVE TO INTERVENE AND PETITION FOR HEARING OF WISCONSIN'S ENVIRONMENTAL DECADE, INC." and Attachments, in the above-captioned proceeding have been served on the following by deposit in the United States mail, first class, or, as indicated by an asterisk, through deposit in the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's internal mail system, this 8th day of January, 1980:

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Washington, D.C. 20555

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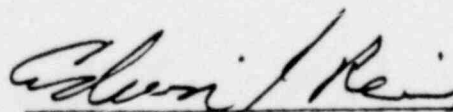
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Edwin J. Reiss  
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