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\*NOT ADMITTED IN D.C.

February 28, 1980

Mr. Harold R. Denton  
Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20555

Re: Wisconsin Electric Power Company  
Point Beach Nuclear Plant, Unit 1  
Docket 50-266

Dear Mr. Denton:

By Confirmatory Order for Modification of License, dated November 30, 1979, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission provided, in Section IV(1)(b), for the conduct in Point Beach Nuclear Plant, Unit 1, of primary to secondary and secondary to primary hydrostatic tests and for an eddy current examination of the steam generator tubes to be performed within sixty effective full power days from the date of issuance of the Order. That period of time will expire on Friday, February 29, 1980. Wisconsin Electric Power Company was planning to remove Unit 1 from service for this purpose this evening, February 28th.

In the evening of February 27, 1980, a primary to secondary leakage rate approaching the Technical Specification

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limit of 500 gpd was detected in Point Beach Nuclear Plant, Unit 2. The plant operating staff immediately proceeded to shut down Unit 2. By the time the unit was removed from service, the leakage rate was approximately 1400 gpd. Unit 2 will remain shut down until the source of the leakage is detected and appropriate plugging is accomplished, as required by the Technical Specifications.

It was Wisconsin Electric Power Company's intention to shut down Unit 2 at the end of March for refueling and turbine generator inspection. Present intentions are to perform inspections and repairs and return Unit 2 to service promptly. Unit 2 shutdown for scheduled refueling will be deferred from its original date of March 28 to April 11.

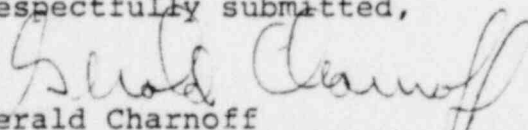
Since Unit 1 returned to service on December 23, 1979, the measured primary to secondary leakage has been maintained at a steady, low level of about 30 gpd, suggesting that the deterioration of the steam generator tube may have been arrested. This, of course, will be checked in more detail at the forthcoming eddy current inspection.

As a result of the event at Point Beach Unit last night, Wisconsin Electric Power Company hereby requests an emergency amendment of the November 30, 1979, Confirmatory Order to allow Unit 1 to remain in operation for an additional ten effective full power days beyond March 1, 1980, prior to the conduct of the tests required under Section IV(1)(b) of the November 30th Confirmatory Order.

In light of the steady and low leakage rate experienced at Unit 1 of 30 gpd during the last two and one-half months, this extension should present no undue risk to public health and safety.

To the extent that this requested extension would require prior notice to the Commissioners, I should appreciate it if you would bring this to the attention of the Commission at its meeting scheduled for this afternoon.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Gerald Charnoff  
Counsel for Wisconsin Electric  
Power Company

cc: Service List

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
WISCONSIN ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY	)	Docket 50-266
	)	
(Point Beach Nuclear Plant,	)	(Modification of
Unit 1)	)	License)

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