

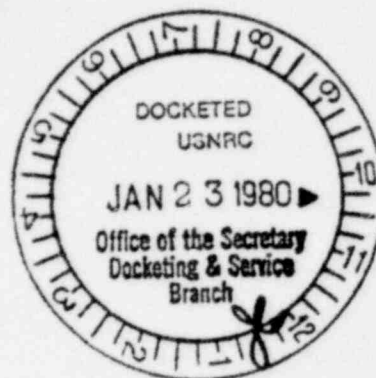
Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

January 12, 1980

Mr. Joseph M. Hendrie
Chairman-Nuclear Regulatory Commission
1717 H Street NW
Washington, DC 20555



Dear Mr. Hendrie,

I am enclosing a copy of a letter that I received from Joan Estes, who is the President of the Lakeshore Citizens for Safe Energy in Manitowoc, Wisconsin. She is very concerned about the operation of the Point Beach Nuclear Power Plant.

I share her concern and would appreciate any personal attention you can give to this matter, in assuring that the plant is operating only under high standards of safety.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Petri
M.C.

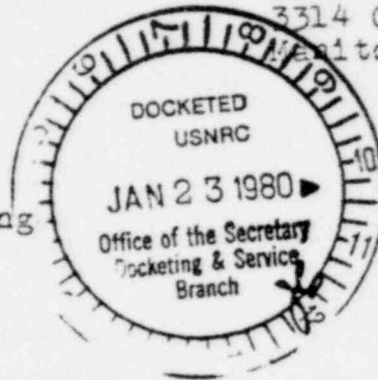
TEP:kaj

cc: Joan Estes

8002 130126

December 13, 1979
3314 Gass Lake Road
Manitowoc, WI. 54220

The Honorable William E. Proxmire
United States Senator
5241 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510



Dear Sir:

After less than twelve days of modified operation, Point Beach Unit I has been shut down because it is still plagued by steam generator tube leakage.

Why ... Why did this happen? During their last outage approximately 145 tubes were plugged. Testing of the tubes was comprehensive and the new crevice flushing technique was tried. In fact, fourteen cycles of the procedure were performed and several pounds of sodium and phosphate were removed from the two steam generators. Even the new multi frequency eddy current method of testing was used for the purpose of detecting tube degradation.

The Point Beach Nuclear Power Plant has the highest rate of corrosion than any other plant in this country. To slow down that high rate, the NRC granted Wisconsin Electric Power Corporation permission to operate the Point Beach facility at a reduced temperature (it is felt that high temperatures accelerate corrosion) and a reduced pressure.

Even after all the tests and the precautionary methods employed by WEPCO for the continued operation of the Point Beach facility, in less than twelve days of operation the plant was shut down because the same problem of leakage still exists.

We have asked the NRC to hold a hearing in the Manitowoc area so that our concerns may be addressed. We, who live in the area, would like a thorough explanation of what is occurring at the Point Beach Nuclear Power Plant. Could you please help us in our request?

Please put yourself in our place. If you lived next to a nuclear plant that just finished a thorough testing program and a modified operation program: and yet, after ten days has to be shut down because of tube leakage - would you be concerned?

We need your help!

Sincerely,
Joan Estes
Joan Estes, President
Lakeshore Citizens For
Safe Energy

P.S. Please let us know the next time you plan to be in the Manitowoc area.