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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION III
799 ROOSEVELT ROAD
GLEN ELLYN, ILLINOIS 60137

NOV 11 1980

Docket No. 50-266
Docket No. 50-301

Wisconsin Electric Power Company
ATTN: Mr. Sol Burstein
Executive Vice President
Power Plants
231 West Michigan
Milwaukee, WI 53201

1980 DEC 16 PM 3 19

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Gentlemen:

Subject: Health Physics Appraisal

The NRC has undertaken a program to strengthen the health physics program at nuclear power plants. As a first step in this effort, the Office of Inspection and Enforcement is conducting special appraisals of the health physics programs at all operating power reactor sites. One of the objectives of these appraisals is to evaluate the overall adequacy and effectiveness of the total health physics program at each site and to identify areas of weakness that need to be strengthened. We also intend to use the findings from these appraisals as a basis for effecting improvements in NRC requirements and guidance. Consequently, our appraisal encompassed certain areas which may not be explicitly addressed by current NRC requirements. This effort was identified to you in a letter dated January 22, 1980, from Mr. Victor Stello, Jr., Director, NRC Office of Inspection and Enforcement.

The next step in this effort will be the imposition of a requirement by the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) that all licensees develop, submit to the NRC for approval, and implement a Radiation Protection Plan. Each licensee will be expected to include in the Radiation Protection Plan sufficient measures to provide lasting corrective action for significant weaknesses identified during the special appraisals of the current health physics program. Guidance for the development of this plan will incorporate pertinent findings from the special appraisals and will be issued by NRR prior to the end of this calendar year.

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During the period September 8 to 19, 1980, the NRC conducted the special appraisal of the health physics program at the Point Beach Nuclear Plant Units 1 and 2. This appraisal was performed in lieu of certain routine inspections normally conducted in the area of health physics. Areas examined during this appraisal are described in the enclosed report (50-266/80-16; 50-301/80-16). Within these areas, the appraisal team reviewed selected procedures and representative records, observed work practices, and interviewed personnel. It is recommended that you carefully review the findings of this report for consideration in effecting improvements to your health physics program.

This appraisal discovered no significant weaknesses in your health physics program. However, findings of lesser significance, but which are considered instrumental in improvement of your health physics program at Point Beach, are summarized at the conclusion of subsections of the enclosed report. Corrective actions in response to these items will be reviewed during future inspection.

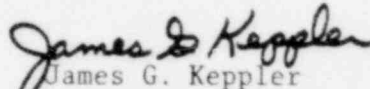
During this appraisal, certain of your activities appeared to be in non-compliance with NRC requirements, as described in the enclosed Appendix A. The appraisal showed that action had been taken to correct the identified noncompliance and to prevent recurrence. Consequently, no reply to this noncompliance is required and we have no further questions regarding these matters at this time.

In accordance with Section 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, a copy of this letter and the enclosures will be placed in the NRC's Public Document Room. If this material contains any information that you believe to be proprietary, it is necessary that you make a written application within 20 days to this office to withhold such information from public disclosure. Any such application must be accompanied by an affidavit, executed by the owner of the information, which identifies the document or part sought to be withheld and which contains a statement of reasons which addresses with specificity the items which will be considered by the Commission as listed in Subparagraph (B)(4) of Section 2.790. The information sought to be withheld shall be incorporated as far as possible into a separate part of the affidavit. If we do not hear from you in this regard within the specified period, this letter and the enclosures will be placed in the Public Document Room.

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Should you have any questions concerning this inspection, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,


James G. Keppler
Director

Enclosures:

1. Appendix A, Notice of Violation
2. IE Inspection Report
No. 50-266/80-16 and
No. 50-301/80-16

cc w/encls:

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