

December 15, 1980

Mr. J. G. K. ppler, Regional Director Office of Inspection and Enforcement, Region III U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION 799 Roosevelt Road Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

Attention: Mr. C. J. Paperiello

Gentlemen:

DOCKET NOS. 50-266 AND 50-301

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM AND HEALTH PHYSICS NETWORK
POINT BEACH NUCLEAR PLANT UNITS 1 AND 2

Your letter dated November 19, 1980 notified us of your intention to have lamps installed on the Emergency Notification System (ENS) and Health Physics Network telephones at our Point Beach Nuclear Plant. You also said the NRC would have output jacks installed on one extension of each system to permit adding one-way speakers to these systems and requested we notify you which location should be so modified.

As discussed in my letter to Mr. Stello, copy to the Resident Inspector, dated June 23, 1980 to which we have received no reply, we requested the installation of a two-way speaker phone on the ENS in our Technical Support Center. Your letter states that two-way speaker systems will not be permitted because they "add additional and unnecessary parties to the conversation which could cause some confusion and possibly hinder the transmission of plant data". We do not agree such needs to be the case. The benefits of an optional two-way speaker phone are significant under many circumstances and would actually reduce the potential for confusion and assist the transmission of information by permitting several parties to have direct, simultaneous communications access. Since the NRC communicator(s) could always request non-use of the speaker if it were, in fact, adding confusion in a specific circumstance, we cannot understand the Commission's resistance to this enhanced communications mode. The present phone arrangement is not as efficient and imposes an increased burden on the plant operation staff.

-2- December 15, 1980 Mr. J. G. Keppler We do not intend to purchase any equipment which would facilitate a one-way speaker system. Accordingly, it is our recommendation that the extensions in the NRC Resident Inspector's office be modified as you see fit. Very truly yours, C. C. Fay C. W. Fay, Director Nuclear Power Department Copies to NRC Resident Inspector Mr. Victor Stello