



Wisconsin Electric POWER COMPANY
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December 17, 1982

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

Attention: Mr. R. A. Clark, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch 3

Gentlemen:

DOCKET NO. 50-266
REACTOR COOLANT SYSTEM GAS VENT SYSTEM
POINT BEACH NUCLEAR PLANT, UNIT 1

In a letter dated June 18, 1982, Wisconsin Electric Power Company requested an exemption from the scheduler requirements of 10 CFR 50.44(c)(3)(iii) to permit a delayed installation of the reactor coolant system gas vent system (RCSGVS) for the Point Beach Nuclear Plant Unit 1. We noted in that request that although the RCSGVS piping and valving would be installed in Unit 1 during the fall 1982 refueling outage and in Unit 2 during the spring 1983 refueling outage, the equipment necessary to permit complete remote operation of each RCSGVS would not be available.

During the just completed Unit 1 refueling outage we have installed the piping and valving for the Unit 1 RCSGVS. As discussed with Mr. Colburn and others on your staff during a telephone conversation on December 2, 1982, several minor modifications to the as-designed piping and piping supports were necessary during installation of this system to accommodate interferences from other components and systems in containment. The revised system (as-built isometric) drawings were provided to the vendor, Combustion Engineering Power Systems (C-E), to verify that these modifications did not alter the results of the thermal-hydraulic and seismic stress analyses of the RCSGVS. C-E has concluded that the modifications would result in only minor differences from the design version of the RCSGVS as shown in the stress report. An addendum to the stress report for the minor differences resulting from the modifications will be provided to Wisconsin Electric by about December 30, 1982.

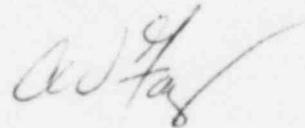
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As further discussed during the December 2 telephone call, we have demonstrated the ability to remotely operate the RCSGVS using a temporary power supply to a temporary control panel. However, we have returned Point Beach Unit 1 to operation with the RCSGVS operable but secured; that is, all manual isolation valves open but with the six remotely operated solenoid valves shut and power removed from the temporary control panel. This provides for a series-parallel isolation of the RCSGVS system in accordance with the system design. However, the system is capable of being operated in an emergency with the restoration of temporary power provided approved procedures are available.

The system for Unit 2 will be in a similar configuration following the spring 1983 refueling. Full operability of both units' systems will be achieved after the installation of the new instrumentation panels in the control room and completion of the bus upgrade work in progress. This is not expected to be complete until mid-1983. Accordingly, we do not consider that an exemption to the requirements of 10 CFR 50.44 is necessary. We do, however, desire your review of our system configuration and concurrence with our conclusion.

Very truly yours,



Assistant Vice President

C. W. Fay

Copy to NRC Resident Inspector