



**Wisconsin  
Electric**  
POWER COMPANY

Point Beach Nuclear Plant  
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PBL 95-0031

January 27, 1995

Document Control Desk  
U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
Main Station P1-137  
Washington, DC 20555

Gentlemen:

DOCKET 50-301

ASME SECTION XI RELIEF REQUEST RR-2-20

POINT BEACH NUCLEAR PLANT UNIT 2

In accordance with 10 CFR 50.55a(g) (5) (iv), Wisconsin Electric Power Company requests relief from Section XI of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, "Rules for Inservice Examination of Nuclear Power Plant Components," 1986 edition, no addenda. The requirements for which relief is requested apply to the third inservice inspection interval for Point Beach Nuclear Plant, Unit 2. The third interval began in December 1992 for Unit 2.

The attached relief request, RR-2-20, provides the information needed for the NRC to complete a review and approval as required.

Sincerely,

Greg Maxfield  
Plant Manager

srn

Attachment

cc: NRC Regional Administrator  
NRC Resident Inspector

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PDR ADOCK 05000301  
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ASME SECTION XI RELIEF REQUEST RR-2-20  
POINT BEACH NUCLEAR PLANT, UNIT 2

COMPONENT

RPV-17-683      LOWER SHELL TO LOWER HEAD RING

EXAM AREA

Figure      IWB-2500-3

ISOMETRICS

ISI-PRI-2101

ASME SECTION XI CATEGORY

B-A

ASME SECTION XI ITEM NUMBER

B1.21

ASME SECTION XI REQUIREMENT

ASME SECTION XI 1986 EDITION, NO ADDENDA

TABLE IWB-2500-1

ITEM NUMBER: B1.21

Examination Method: Volumetric

Extent and Frequency: Accessible length of one weld.

NOTE 2: Includes essentially 100% of the weld length.

FEDERAL REGISTER VOLUME 57 - NO. 152 DATED AUG. 6, 1992 REQUIRES  
USE OF ASME SECTION XI 1989 EDITION, NO ADDENDA

TABLE IWB-2500-1

ITEM NUMBER: B1.21

Examination Method: Volumetric

Extent and Frequency: Accessible length of all welds.

NOTE 2: Includes essentially 100% of the weld length.

ALTERNATE REQUIREMENT

PBNP proposes that the percentage requirement of Note 2 be  
waived for weld RPV-17-683. RPV-17-683 will be examined to  
the extent practical taking into account known limitations.

REASON FOR PROPOSED ALTERNATE REQUIREMENT

During the Unit 2, Second 10 Year Interval, reactor vessel  
examination in 1989, PBNP adopted the selection requirements  
of ASME Section XI 1989 Edition for Category B-A welds. PBNP

performed examinations of all of the Category B-A welds during the 1989 reactor vessel examination even though this was not a mandated requirement at the time. Essentially 100% of all welds were examined with the exception of weld RPV-17-683. Approximately 75% of the weld volume was examined due to limitations. Parallel and transverse examinations were limited above the weld by interference from the four Core Barrel Antirotation Lugs. Transverse examinations are limited because of search unit bridging on the shell to head transition.

In order to achieve the requirements of Note 2 the antirotation lugs would require removal and subsequent reinstallation. This is not practical and would be very detrimental to the reactor vessel.

Prior to the end of the Second Interval, Federal Register Vol. 57, No. 152, dated August 6, 1992 mandated the use of ASME Section XI 1989 Edition for Category B-A welds. Based on the reactor vessel examination performed during 1989, PBNP met the requirements for the second 10 year interval.

During the reactor vessel examination scheduled for the Third 10 Year Interval the same physical limitations will exist which will prevent essentially 100% of the weld volume from being examined. It is expected that approximately 75% of the weld will be examined.