

DCS-MS-016

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Docket Nos. 50-266  
and 50-301

JUL 26 1983

Mr. C. W. Fay  
 Vice President - Nuclear Power  
 Wisconsin Electric Power Company  
 231 West Michigan Street  
 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201

Dear Mr. Fay:

This letter relates to three of your applications for changes to the Point Beach Unit 1 and 2 Technical Specifications (TS), submitted in your letters of September 17, 1982, March 14, 1983 and April 19, 1983 respectively.

The first application requests TS changes necessary for operation of Point Beach Unit 1 at reduced thermal design flow (95% of rated primary flow). As discussed with members of your staff, we have issued our Safety Evaluation (SE) by letter dated April 8, 1983. However, the power level approved by the NRC staff was slightly lower than that requested by your TS change request (84% power vs. 91% power). You have subsequently indicated that this amendment is not needed for Point Beach Unit 1 as primary flow did not drop below 100% rated flow due to steam generator tube plugging as was anticipated might happen during the Fall 1982 refueling outage for Point Beach Unit 1. As was discussed with members of your staff, we request that you withdraw this amendment request as it is unlikely that it will be needed. In the event such a request is ever needed for Unit 1 or Unit 2, we recommend a new application for amendments be submitted such that the limits requested are within the bounds of that approved by the NRC staff in the April 8, 1983 Safety Evaluation.

The second application for amendments requests a TS change to allow operation of Point Beach Units 1 and 2 using a new fuel of different but similar design referred to as the Westinghouse Optimized Fuel Assembly (OFA) design. In addition to the OFA fuel design, these proposed TS would allow a relaxation of the refueling shutdown margin and the allowance of a small positive (vice negative) moderator temperature coefficient for up to 70% power, use of a different axial offset control strategy and a change in the equation to determine increases in the enthalpy rise hot channel factor. Your March 14, 1983 application for amendments did not include supporting analyses but indicated that they would be provided at a later date.

As discussed with members of your staff, the NRC staff does not have enough information to make its proposed determination as to whether or not the requested amendments would involve a significant hazards

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consideration. We therefore intend to withhold our consideration of your amendments until the supporting analyses are provided. Further, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.91 effective May 6, 1983, we request that you provide your determination as to whether these requested amendments involve a significant hazards consideration.

The third application for amendments requests changes to the fire protection TS for Point Beach Units 1 and 2. Our proposed notice of issuance of these amendments does not address portions of the amendment requests as the staff does not intend to grant the relaxations requested by these changes (twice per shift fire watch inspections vice once per hour and relaxing the time to achieve cold shutdown due to inoperable equipment from 30 to 48 hours). The remainder of these proposed TS changes are being noticed in the Federal Register in accordance with the applicable regulations.

If you have any questions on the above mentioned TS change requests, please contact your project manager.

Sincerely,

Original signed by  
Robert A. Clark

Robert A. Clark, Chief  
Operating Reactors Branch #3  
Division of Licensing

cc: See next page

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Wisconsin Electric Power Company

cc:

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