



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NOS. 130 AND 134 TO
FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NOS. DPR-24 AND DPR-27

WISCONSIN ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY
POINT BEACH NUCLEAR PLANT, UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2
DOCKET NOS. 50-266 AND 50-301

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated April 24, 1991, the Wisconsin Electric Power Company (the licensee) requested changes to Technical Specifications (TS) 15.3.4.A.3, Steam and Power Conversion System, and the associated basis, for the Point Beach Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2. The proposed changes would increase the required minimum volume of water available in the condensate storage tanks (CST's) from 10,000 to 13,000 gallons per unit. The proposed change to the Bases indicates the CST level would be adequate to maintain a unit in hot shutdown condition for at least 1 hour following loss of all AC power.

2.0 EVALUATION

By letter dated April 17, 1989, the licensee submitted a response to the station blackout rule, 10 CFR 50.63, Loss of All Alternating Current Power. In that response the licensee maintained that the existing TS requirement of 10,000 gallons of water per unit in the CST's, along with the initial steam generator water inventory, was sufficient to maintain steam generator decay heat removal capability, using auxiliary feedwater during the 1-hour period following a loss of all AC power necessary to align the alternate AC (AAC) source. Service water is available as a source of water to feed the steam generators following restoration of power from the AAC source. The licensee has performed a calculation supporting their position.

In the NRC staff's Safety Evaluation (SE) dated October 3, 1990, which addressed the licensee's conformance to the rule, the staff recommended that the minimum water volume requirement for the CST's be increased from 10,000 to 13,000 gallons per unit. This increase was based on the conclusion that the 10,000 gallon limit may not be sufficient, considering other operator priorities at 1 hour after onset of a station blackout. The 1-hour time frame is based on the time limit in the rule for having an AAC source available. While the licensee believes that the 10,000 gallon requirement would be technically adequate for accident analysis, they concur that increasing the required volume of water to 13,000 gallons per unit would afford operators additional time to take corrective action in the event of a loss of all AC power, and anytime there is a demand for auxiliary feedwater. The proposed change is in keeping with the staff's recommendation in the October 3, 1990, letter regarding an increase in CST water inventory. The staff has reviewed the proposed changes to TS 15.3.4.A.3 and Bases, and finds them to be acceptable.

3.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the Wisconsin State official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendment. The State official had no comments.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

These amendments involve a change in the installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20 or change an inspection or surveillance requirement. The staff has determined that the amendments involve no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluents that may be released off-site, and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission has previously published a proposed finding that these amendments involve no significant hazards consideration and there has been no public comment on such finding. Accordingly, these amendments meet the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR §51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b), no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of these amendments.

5.0 CONCLUSION

The staff has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendments will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

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Date: April 8, 1992