



Point Beach Nuclear Plant
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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
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DOCKETS 50-266 AND 50-301
1995 EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS EXERCISE FOR POINT BEACH
NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2

This memo is a follow up to the exemption request for the 1995 Point Beach Emergency Plan Exercise documented in a letter sent to you dated October 6, 1995, the conference call between representatives of NRC and licensee staff occurring on October 31, 1995, and the brief follow up call from Mr. O'Brien on November 2.

During the conference call, Mr. James O'Brien of your staff requested additional documentation to address the requirement of 10 CFR 50 Appendix E, section IV.F.2.e, which states "Licensees shall enable any State or local government located within the plume exposure pathway EPZ to participate in annual exercises when requested by such State or local government." Specifically, Mr. O'Brien asked that the licensee supply written documentation to address the fact that the State of Wisconsin, Manitowoc County and Kewaunee County were asked if they would view this exemption as being a missed opportunity for their staff to exercise their offsite plans. The following information should address this concern.

In accordance with 10 CFR 50 Appendix E, Section IV.F.2.c, the State of Wisconsin, Manitowoc County and Kewaunee County exercise their offsite plans fully/partially with Point Beach or Kewaunee biennially. Therefore, the offsite agencies exercise their emergency plans with one of the plants annually. The State of Wisconsin also has exercising and planning requirements for Northern States Power's Prairie Island plant and Commonwealth Edison's Zion plant.

The Point Beach Exemption Request was discussed with the State and the County Directors on October 19 and October 26, 1995, respectively. Mr. James Foster, NRC RIII, also mentioned the Point Beach Exemption Request at the FEMA V Scheduling Conference on October 25, 1995. There were no concerns raised about an exemption from exercising from either the State of Wisconsin, Manitowoc County or Kewaunee County during these discussions.

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As requested by Mr. O'Brien, Richard Chojnacki, our Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, contacted Mr. Garrett Nielsen, Manager of the Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program for the State of Wisconsin, and Ms. Nancy Crowley, Director of Manitowoc County Emergency Government, on October 31, 1995, to verify they would not regard the Point Beach exemption as a missed opportunity for them and their staff to exercise their offsite plan. Mr. Lyle Schmiling, Director of Kewaunee County Emergency Government, was contacted on November 1, 1995, for the same purpose. All three individuals indicated that they would not view the exemption as a missed opportunity primarily because they typically only participate from a communications standpoint during a utility's off-year exercise. Fully participating in the Kewaunee Emergency Plan Exercise on October 11, 1995 was a contributing factor.

In the brief follow up call on November 2, Mr. O'Brien asked for clarification on our actions to address the self-identified weaknesses and the areas for improvement identified during our August 29 Emergency Plan Drill. The following information should clarify our planned corrective actions.

There were three "weaknesses" or objectives evaluated as being "not demonstrated" during the August 29 EP drill. The first objective rated as not demonstrated was **1.2.2.b - Disseminate initial and subsequent emergency messages from the plant** because the control room staff took 64 minutes to notify the NRC of the ALERT classification. This has not been identified as a problem in the past. We are tracking this item under EP-DRL 95-001 in our tracking system. Our corrective actions include emphasizing this issue during Operations Training Cycle 8 scheduled for December of this year. This training includes the Operations crews, Duty Technical Advisors (DTAs), and Duty & Call Superintendents (DCSSs). We also intend to cover this issue in participant briefings and training prior to the June Emergency Plan Drill in preparation for the August Emergency Plan Exercise.

The second objective rated as not demonstrated was **1.2.2.c - Communicate effectively between emergency response facilities** because there was no apparent observation that the simulator crew heard the GENERAL EMERGENCY announcement and were not aware of the upgrade in classification for some time. Associated with this objective, the Offsite Health Physics Facility (OSHPPF) was apparently not aware of the upgrade in classification for about one hour. We are tracking this item under EP-DRL 95-002 in our tracking system. Under this item, there are two action items which will be corrected prior to the next EP Drill. The first action item is for evaluating the sound levels in the simulator. Since we cut over the simulator Gai-tronics to the plant Gai-tronics, we have noted a decrease in the volume in both receiving and transmitting. We do not believe this would be a problem during an actual event since we have not noticed or been informed of sound problems in the real control room. The second action item involves defining responsibilities for key emergency response positions in keeping the OSHPPF personnel informed of changes in plant status. The key positions are the Chemistry Director in the TSC, the Radcon Waste Manager in the EOP, and the Offsite Health Physics Director in the OSHPPF. These people should be keeping their counterparts informed of significant changes in plant and radiological conditions during an emergency event. This will be emphasized during training.

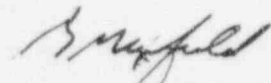
The third and final objective rated as not demonstrated was 1.2.5.c - Update facility staff periodically on plant and emergency response status because the GENERAL EMERGENCY classification was not brought up in the crew briefings, giving indication that it was not known. We believe that the Technical Support Center staff should be more proactive in keeping the Control Room staff informed of changes in classifications. We are tracking this item under EP-DRL 95-003 and will emphasize briefings and interfacility communications in training prior to the next EP Drill.

As for the Areas For Improvement identified during the August 29 Drill, the EP Staff will look at all the items, identify which items are important to improve our emergency preparedness program, and identify which groups of ERO members we should focus on for training. We plan to train these groups, focusing on the Areas For Improvement, prior to the next EP Drill.

We hope this information will help in completing the evaluation of the Point Beach Exercise Exemption Request. Again, we would appreciate a response to the exemption request by November 17, 1995.

If you should have further questions or require additional information, please contact Mr. Richard Chojnacki at (414) 755-6491.

Sincerely,



Greg Maxfield
Manager - Point Beach Nuclear Plant

smb

cc: Mr. James O'Brien, NRR
Mr. Allen Hansen, NRC Project Manager - NRR
Mr. Hub Miller, NRC RIII Administrator
Mr. James Creed, NRC RIII
Mr. Tom Ploski, NRC RIII
Mr. James Foster, NRC RIII
Resident Inspectors, Point Beach Nuclear Plant