HERBERT KOHL

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Kenneth M. Carr, Chairman Nuclear Regulatory Commission One White Flint North 11555 Rockville Pike Rockville, MD 20852

United States Senate

June 15, 1992

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Dear Chairman Carr:

On behalf of a constituent of mine, I would like to request information about the Point Brach Nuclear Power Plant near Two Rivers, Wisconsin.

Specifically, I would like information about the plant's implementation of safety requirements, any violations that the NRC has cited following inspections of the plant, and any penalties levied against the plant's operator. Please address return correspondence to Jonathan McBride of my staff.

Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,

Herb Kohl, U.S.S.

HK:djw

DCT 3 0 1990

GALP & REPORT

Docket No. 50-266 Docket No. 50-301

Wisconsin Electric Power Company ATTN: Mr. C. W. Fay Vice President Nuclear Power 231 West Michigan Street - P379 Milwaukee, WI 53201

Gentlemen:

Enclosed for your review, prior to our scheduled meeting of November 19, 1990, is the Initial SALP 8 Report for the Point Beach Nuclear Plant, covering the period April 1, 1989, through August 31, 1990.

In accordance with NRC policy, I have reviewed the SALP Board Assessment and concur with their ratings. It is my view that your conduct of nuclear activities in connection with the Point Beach facility shows an appropriate concern for nuclear jafety.

Performance in the functional area of Plant Operations improved from a Category 2 rating to a Category 1 rating, while the area of Maintenance/Surveillance sustained a Category 1 rating. These high ratings were in part due to:

- A strong, knowledgeable, and professional operations staff who demonstrate a good awareness of plant conditions and create a professional atmosphere in the control room.
- Your maintenance of a "black board" condition in the control room and the high priority you place on repairing malfunctioning annunciators.
- Overall good performance, which is exemplified by relatively few violations and low forced outage rate. This latter point is indicative of a good maintenance program and few personnel errors.

The performance in the area of Radiological Controls declined from a Category 1 rating to a Category 2 rating. Contributing to this decline were the recurrent high radiation area and unplanned exposure problems, including training and management weaknesses associated with these problems.

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The functional areas of Emergency Preparedness, Security, Engineering/Technical Support, and Safety Assessment/Quality Verification each remained at a Category 2 rating. I note problems in your corrective action program are highlighted in the Safety Assessment/Quality Verification area.

We acknowledge the steps you have taken to further improve your performance. These include an ongoing plan to increase your staffing, recent improvements in your corrective action program, plans to continue your safety system functional inspections, and plans to initiate a design reconstitution program. Although it is too early to judge the full effectiveness of these initiatives, they should accomplish the intended result. We will continue to monitor your progress. An area that showed significant progress during this assessment period is communications among groups within Wisconsin Electric Company and with the NRC.

At the SALP meeting, you should be prepared to discuss our assessments and your plans to improve performance. The meeting is intended to be a candid dialogue wherein any comments you may have regarding our report are discussed. Additionally, you may provide written comments within 30 days after the meeting. Your comments, a summary of our meeting, and my disposition of your comments will be issued as the Final SALP Report.

In accordance with Section 2.750 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice." Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, a copy of this letter and the Initial SALP Report will be placed in the NRC's Public Document Room.

Should you have any questions concerning the Initial SALP Report, we would be pleased to discuss them with you.

A. Bert Davis
Regional Administrator

Enclosure: Point Beach Initial SALP 8
Report No. 266/90001(DRP);
Report No. 301/90001(DRP)

CC W/enclosure: G. J. Maxfield, Plant Manager DCD/DCB (RIDS) OC/LFDCB

See Continued Distribution

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SEE ATTACHED CONCUR ENCE

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DeD/DED(RIOS) UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION REGION III 799 RODSEVELT ROAD GLEN ELLYN, ILLINOIS 60137 MAY 2 2 1992 Docket No. 50-266 Docket No. 50-301 Wisconsin Electric Power Company ATTN: Mr. Robert Link Vice President Nuclear Power 231 West Michigan Street - P379 Milwaukee, WI 53201 Dear Mr. Link: This refers to the NRC's systematic Assessment of Licensee Performance (SALP) 9 Report for the Point Beach Nuclear Plant, our meeting of April 20, 1992, which discussed in detail the contents of the report, and your written comments dated May 13, 1992, relative to the report. Based on our discussions during the meeting and our review and evaluation of your letter of response, we have reached the conclusion presented in the enclosed meeting summary. With the incorporation of the revised page from Enclosure 3, the Initial SALP Report dated April 20, 1992, should be considered to be the Firal SALP Report. At the request of your staff, copies of the NRC presentation material were distributed at the SALP meeting. A copy of this material is included as Enclosure 4 to this letter. In accordance with Section 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, a copy of this letter with the referenced enclosures, will be placed in the NRC's Public Document Room. No reply to this letter is required; however, should you have questions regarding the Final SALP Report, please let us know and we will be pleased to discuss Sincerely, A. Bert Davis Regional Administrator Enclosures: 1. Final SALP 9 Reports No. 50-266/92001; 50-301/92001 (Meeting Summary) See Attached Distribution

2. Revision sheet

3. Revised Page to SALP Report

4. SALP meeting presentation material

 Licensee Response Ltr, dtd May 13, 1992

Distribution

cc w/enclosure:
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