



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION III
601 WARRENVILLE ROAD
LISLE, ILLINOIS 60532-4351

August 26, 1997

MEMORANDUM TO: Samuel J. Collins, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: A. Bill Beach, Regional Administrator, Region III *Bill Beach*

SUBJECT: PROPOSED EXTENSION OF POINT BEACH SALP CYCLE

This memorandum is to inform you of our intent to extend the current Point Beach SALP cycle from 15 months to 19 months. Although the proposed cycle still falls within the normal 12 to 24-month evaluation interval in which I can establish a SALP cycle, NRC Manual Directive 8.6, "Systematic Assessment of Licensee Performance (SALP)", requires that I confer with you when the SALP cycle is changed for a plant in an extended shutdown or extended outage, or being decommissioned.

Point Beach Unit 2 has been in an extended outage since October 1996 for replacement of its steam generators. Resolution of significant operations, maintenance, and engineering issues has substantially delayed the end of the outage. These issues have now been satisfactorily addressed and core loading was completed in mid-June, with a restart of Unit 2 expected by the licensee in August. Point Beach Unit 1 was shut down by the licensee in late February 1997, to allow the licensee to focus resources on addressing improvement initiatives and restarting Unit 2. Unit 1 is not scheduled to restart until after Unit 2 is restarted.

With the previous SALP cycle end date of July 19, 1997, we would not have captured the completion of the licensee's extensive recovery efforts, which should culminate in the successful restarts of both Units. With the cycle extended through November 29, 1997, those efforts should be complete allowing us to make a meaningful assessment of licensee performance over the past 19 months, but particularly during the past 11 months since being issued a trending letter.

Attached is a copy of our Region III SALP schedule that has been revised to reflect this change in the Point Beach SALP cycle length.

If you have any comments or questions on the proposed extension, please call me.

Attachment: As stated

cc w/ attach: Project Manager, NRR
Deputy RA
RIII Enf. Coordinator
Docket File
DRP
SRI Point Beach, Kewaunee

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