Mr. Roger A. Newton, Chairman Regulatory Response Group Westinghouse Owners Group Wisconsin Electric Power Company 231 West Michigan Milwaukee, WI 53201

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (RAI) RELATED TO THE PART-LENGTH CONTROL ROD DRIVE MECHANISM (CRDM) HOUSING ISSUE

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Sincerely,

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Claudia M. Craig, Senior Project Manager Generic Issues and Environmental Projects Branch Division of Reactor Program Management Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 694

Enclosure: As stated

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 19, 1998

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- 2. The RRG recommendations do not appear definitive regarding the need for either inspection or preemptive repair to alleviate the concern regarding a degraded component being in service. While the staff agrees that inspection results from other plants have not, to date, identified similar degradation and are considered encouraging with regard to addressing the issue in the longer term, in our view, sufficient information has not been presented to obviate the need for inspection or preemptive repair at each plant in the long term. Please provide your response.
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The staff notes the probabilistic analysis described in response to NRC Question 3 (Attachment 1 to the WOG letter dated March 6, 1998) uses a value of 0.1 for the presence of a flaw in other WOG plants. This value was obtained as a per-weld probability. Based on the cited data alone, the probability for another plant with 8 of the subject welds would be 0.57 and the probability for a plant with 16 welds would be 0.81. The staff believes the ongoing inspections are important to provide more data and confidence in the RRG conclusion that the subject weld defect is an isolated incidence resulting from weld fabrication.

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Broadway and Bieakley Avenue Buchanan, NY 10511

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