

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

November 17, 2021

Ms. Daina Penkiunas State Historic Preservation Officer Wisconsin Historical Society 816 State Street Madison, WI 53706

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR SUBSEQUENT LICENSE RENEWAL OF POINT BEACH NUCLEAR PLANT UNIT NUMBERS 1 AND 2 (DOCKET NUMBERS: 50-266 and 50-301)

Dear Ms. Penkiunas:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is conducting a review of the environmental effects of renewing the operating licenses for Point Beach Nuclear Plant, Unit Nos. 1 and 2 (Point Beach). Point Beach is operated by NextEra Energy Point Beach, LLC and is located in Manitowoc County, Wisconsin. As part of its review of the proposed action, the NRC has prepared a draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) that includes analyses of potential impacts to historic properties at Point Beach from activities associated with license renewal.

As stated in our letter to your office dated February 1, 2021, the NRC is conducting Section 106 consultations in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act through the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act, as outlined in 36 CFR 800.8(c). The NRC has determined that the area of potential effects for this license renewal action is the Point Beach power plant site and its immediate environs that may be impacted by ongoing routine maintenance and operational activities during the subsequent license renewal term.

As discussed in the draft SEIS, the NRC staff's preliminary determination is that subsequent license renewal would not adversely affect historic properties. Further, the NRC's preliminary recommendation is that the adverse environmental impacts of subsequent license renewal for Point Beach are not so great that preserving the option of license renewal for energy-planning decision-makers would be unreasonable. In support of these conclusions, the NRC conducted an environmental site audit and reviewed historic and archeological records. The NRC also initiated consultation with 22 Federally recognized American Indian Tribes, notifying them of the proposed action and requesting comments on the scope of the environmental analysis. Documentation of Tribal consultation is presented in Appendix C of the draft SEIS.

A copy of the draft SEIS is available via the following link:

<u>https://adamswebsearch2.nrc.gov/webSearch2/main.jsp?AccessionNumber=ML21306A226</u>. The draft SEIS is also available through the web-based version of the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) at <u>https://www.nrc.gov/reading-</u> <u>rm/adams.html</u> under ADAMS Accession No. ML21306A226. Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.8(c), we are requesting your comments on the draft SEIS and preliminary conclusions. Written comments should be submitted by mail to:

ATTN: Program Management, Announcements and Editing Staff Office of Administration Mail Stop: TWFN-7A60M U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555-0001

Electronic comments on the draft SEIS may be submitted to the NRC by accessing <u>www.regulations.gov</u> and searching for Docket ID NRC-2020-0277. The preferred method for providing your comments is electronically through <u>regulations.gov</u> or using the NRC staff email contact listed below.

The NRC will hold afternoon and evening public meeting webinars to discuss the findings of the draft SEIS on December 8, 2021. The webinars will be held online (for the video presentation) and by telephone line (for audio and for members of the public to submit comments). The afternoon webinar will be from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. central time and the evening webinar will be from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. central time. The webinar details are available in the following NRC public meeting notice: https://www.nrc.gov/pmns/mtg?do=details&Code=20211468.

Please note that the public comment period for the draft SEIS ends on January 3, 2022. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Ms. Nancy Martinez, at 630-829-9734 or via e-mail at <u>Nancy.Martinez@nrc.gov</u>.

Sincerely, R. B. Ellit Signed by Elliott, Robert on 11/17/21

Robert B. Elliott, Chief Environmental Review License Renewal Branch Division of Rulemaking, Environment and Financial Support Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

Docket Nos: 50-266 and 50-301

cc: Listserv

Tyler Howe Historic Preservation Compliance Supervisor 816 State Street. Madison, WI 53706

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