

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Docket: NRC-2020-0277

Notice of Intent to Conduct Scoping Process and Prepare Environmental Impact Statement NextEra Energy Point Beach, LLC; Point Beach Nuclear Plant, Unit Nos. 1 and 2

Comment On: NRC-2020-0277-0194

NextEra Energy Point Beach, LLC; Point Beach Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2

Document: NRC-2020-0277-DRAFT-0237

Comment on FR Doc # 2021-24407

Submitter Information

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Government Agency Type: Regional

Government Agency: Clean Water Action Council of NE WI

General Comment

I am commenting on behalf of over 250 members of Clean Water Action Council of Northeastern Wisconsin who live within 50 miles of the Point Beach Nuclear Power Reactors. Many of our members live even closer to the reactors in Kewaunee and Manitowoc counties.

We are very concerned about the condition of the reactors regarding embrittlement, especially due to the proximity of the plant to member residences. We agree with expert Mr. Arnie Gundersen's comments to NRC regarding the threat from a 20-year extension:

“However, in a seriously embrittled reactor like Point Beach, when that cool water is injected and comes in direct contact with the hot reactor vessel, it can cause “Pressurized Thermal Shock” (PTS). After this, the 8-inch thick steel reactor vessel may crack from PTS, causing it to break open and release massive radioactivity into the surrounding area and the environment. The sudden breach of the nuclear power reactor would dramatically increase the pressure inside the containment causing this last radiation barrier to fail also. Should this event occur, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has estimated that it will cause at least 7,000 cancer deaths and \$112 Billion in today's dollars in property damage.”

We believe the EIS does not adequately assess the risk to human health and the local environment in the event of a nuclear accident nor does it contain adequate plans for responding to such an accident.

We are also concerned with impact of another 20 years of using water from Lake Michigan for cooling the reactors. It is known that climate change is causing the average water temperature to rise. The heated wastewater will further impact health of the lake ecosystem in the Two Rivers area. We believe the EIS did not include this concern.

In consideration of the above concerns, and the continued decreasing cost and increasing viability of solar energy, we ask the 20-year extension not be granted.