



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

November 4, 1999

Mr. M. L. Marchi
Site Vice President-Kewaunee Plant
Wisconsin Public Service Corporation
P.O. Box 19002
Green Bay, WI 54307-9002

SUBJECT: KEWAUNEE NUCLEAR POWER PLANT - CLOSURE OF GENERIC LETTER 98-01 AND SUPPLEMENT 1, "YEAR 2000 READINESS OF COMPUTER SYSTEMS AT NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS" (TAC NO. MA1848)

Dear Mr. Marchi:

On May 11, 1998, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued Generic Letter 98-01, "Year 2000 Readiness of Computer Systems at Nuclear Power Plants," to all holders of operating licenses for nuclear power plants, except those who have permanently ceased operations and have certified that fuel has been permanently removed from the reactor vessel. The NRC issued GL 98-01 to ensure that licensees were adequately addressing potential date-related errors with computer systems, embedded software devices, and software applications sufficiently in advance of the year 2000 (Y2K) rollover date to ensure that nuclear power plants will be in a stable, safe condition during the Y2K transition.

Subsequent to the issuance of GL 98-01, increased public awareness and government attention to the Y2K issue resulted in concern over not only public health and safety of nuclear power plants, but also concern over the ability of nuclear power plants to continue to provide power to the national electric power grid. Therefore, on January 14, 1999, the staff issued Supplement 1 to GL-98-01 to provide addressees with a voluntary, alternative response to that required in item (2) of GL 98-01. In responding to Supplement 1, addressees were asked to confirm Y2K readiness of the facility with regard to those systems within the scope of the license and NRC regulations, as well as those systems required for continued operation of the facility after January 1, 2000. Addressees were permitted to voluntarily respond to Supplement 1 to GL 98-01 on or before July 1, 1999, in lieu of item (2) of GL 98-01.

In response to GL 98-01, you provided letters dated August 10, 1998, and June 30, 1999, for the Kewaunee Nuclear Plant. These submittals provided the information requested by GL 98-01. The staff has reviewed your response and has concluded that all requested information has been provided. Therefore, we consider GL 98-01 to be closed for your facility.

NUREG-1706, "Year 2000 Readiness in U.S. Nuclear Power Plants," provides a status of nuclear power plant Y2K readiness as of September 1, 1999, and a description of NRC actions to determine Y2K readiness in operating U.S. reactors. The staff's assessment of Y2K readiness consisted of independently evaluating nuclear power plant licensee Y2K readiness program processes, reviewing licensee responses to NRC requests for reporting Y2K readiness (i.e., GL 98-01 and Supplement 1), and combining the results on these assessments to achieve

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M. Marchi

- 2 -

a high level of assurance that each facility will operate safely during the transition from 1999 to 2000 and on other Y2K-sensitive dates. NUREG-1706 is linked to the NRC home page (<http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/NEWS/year2000.html>).

We would like to acknowledge the efforts you have completed to date in preparing your plant for the Y2K transition and we appreciate your continued cooperation on this important issue.

If you have any questions related to this matter, please contact me at 301-415-1392.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tae Kim", written in a cursive style.

Tae Kim, Senior Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate III
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-305

cc: See next page

M. L. Marchi
Wisconsin Public Service Corporation

Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant

cc:

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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Resident Inspectors Office
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James D. Loock, Chief Engineer
Public Service Commission
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P. O. Box 7854
Madison, WI 53707-7854

M. Marchi

- 2 -

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Original signed by:

Tae Kim, Senior Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate III
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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