



Nuclear Management Company, LLC
Point Beach Nuclear Plant
6610 Nuclear Road
Two Rivers, WI 54241

NPL 2000-0518

10 CFR 50.90

December 19, 2000

Document Control Desk
U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
Mail Station P1-137
Washington, DC 20555

Ladies and Gentlemen:

DOCKETS 50-266 AND 50-301
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS CHANGE REQUEST 201
MODIFICATIONS TO TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS TO PROVIDE CONSISTENCY
REQUEST FOR WITHDRAWAL
POINT BEACH NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2 (TAC NOS. MA 6846 & MA 6847)

By letter dated October 5, 1999 (reference NPL 99-0565), Wisconsin Electric Power Company (WE), then licensee for the Point Beach Nuclear Plant (PBNP), requested amendments to Facility Operating Licenses DPR-24 and DPR-27 for Units 1 and 2, respectively. The requested amendments proposed to eliminate an inconsistency within the Technical Specifications, principally related to decay heat removal, which resulted in the necessity for enforcement discretion on February 19, 1997. This inconsistency resulted in a conflict between Technical Specification (TS) 15.3.1.A.3, "Components Required for Redundant Decay Heat Removal Capability," TS 15.3.3.A, "Safety Injection and Residual Heat Removal Systems" and TS 15.3.3.C, "Component Cooling System". By modifying the Technical Specifications as proposed within that amendment request, these inconsistencies would be eliminated.

By letter dated April 11, 2000, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff requested additional information regarding this amendment request. WE's response, including Supplement 1 to the amendment request, was provided in a letter dated May 19, 2000 (reference NPL 2000-0224).

On November 15, 1999, WE submitted an application to convert the Point Beach Current Technical Specifications (CTS) to the Point Beach Improved Technical Specifications (ITS). The ITS submittal, including supplements thereto, incorporated the changes proposed in the October 5, 1999 amendment request and thereby results in elimination of the subject inconsistencies that exist in the CTS regarding decay heat removal. This determination was evaluated, and concurred with, by the cognizant NRC technical reviewers.

Implementation of the ITS at Point Beach is planned to occur during July 2001, at which time the subject Technical Specifications inconsistencies will be eliminated. Approval of the October 5, 1999 amendment request, and its subsequent implementation, would likely have occurred only a few months prior to the planned ITS implementation. During subsequent discussions

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with NRC staff members, the staff concurred that continued review of the October 5, 1999 amendment request was duplicative of the ITS conversion review process and, as such, an inappropriate use of resources, considering the minimal time difference between the expected implementation dates of the two amendment requests. Therefore, since implementation of ITS will eliminate the subject inconsistencies, we request that the October 5, 1999 application, as supplemented May 19, 2000, be withdrawn.

The subject Technical Specification inconsistency will exist until ITS implementation occurs. Although unlikely, this inconsistency could result in the need for enforcement discretion if a situation similar to the February 19, 1997 event were to occur. We request that withdrawal of the October 5, 1999 application not preclude future relief from the Technical Specification inconsistency if it were to become necessary.


Please contact us if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Mark E. Reddemann
Site Vice President

Subscribed and sworn before me on
this 19 day of December, 2000.


Notary Public, State of Wisconsin

My commission expires 10/24/2004.

JG/jlk

Attachments

cc: NRC Resident Inspector
NRC Regional Administrator
NRC Project Manger
PSCW