

May 2, 2013

Mr. Larry Meyer, Site Vice President  
NextEra Energy Point Beach, LLC  
6610 Nuclear Road  
Two Rivers, Wisconsin 54241

Dear Mr. Meyer:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am responding to your letter dated November 26, 2012, (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML12332A336), requesting a fee waiver for the Point Beach Nuclear Plant's (PBNP) participation as a pilot plant to address Generic Safety Issue (GSI)-191. Your letter was forwarded to my office by Mr. Terry Beltz in the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation. We regret the delay in responding to your request.

The NRC has established regulations for the granting of fee exemptions under 10 CFR 170.11, "Exemptions," for which licensees may apply in accordance with 10 CFR 170.5, "Communications." The NRC has reviewed your request based on the following regulation, 10 CFR 170.11(a)(12) and 10 CFR 170.5:

- 10 CFR 170.11(a)(12): No application fees, license fees, renewal fee, inspection fees, or special project fees shall be required for: A performance assessment or evaluation for which the licensee volunteers at the NRC's request and which is selected by the NRC. Your letter acknowledges NRC Commission Paper SECY-12-0093, "Closure Options for Generic Safety issue -191, Assessment of Debris Accumulation of Pressurized-Water Reactor Sump Performance," (ADAMS Accession No. ML121320270) which confirms NRC's commitment to resolving the issue of debris clogging in containment sump strainers of power reactors which leads to the loss of net positive suction head for the emergency core cooling system and the containment spray system pumps. The paper also discusses three options which could be potential solutions toward addressing GSI-191.

The NRC notes NextEra Energy Point Beach, LLC (NextEra, the licensee) selected to address "Option 3" for PBNP. The NextEra is confident that the PBNP two-loop Westinghouse Nuclear Steam Supply System design features, scope of insulation remediation, the licensing basis of simultaneous hot and cold leg injection, and an established probabilistic risk assessment model provide a solid platform for development of the technical basis and methods for implementing the Option 3 closure approach. NextEra is also willing to work closely with the NRC staff to determine the required licensing actions for this approach and development of industry guidance. The NRC supports allowing licensees the flexibility to choose any of the three options to GSI-191 as stated in Staff Requirements Memorandum, "Staff Requirements - SECY-12-0093, Closure Options for Generic Safety Issue-191, Assessment of Debris Accumulation on Pressurized-Water Reactor Sump Performance," (ADAMS Accession No.

ML12349A378), dated December 14, 2012. The NRC concludes that NextEra's request that PBNP participate as a pilot plant to resolve GS-191 meets the regulation.

- *10 CFR 170.5: All communications concerning the regulations in this part should be addressed to the NRC's Chief Financial Officer, either by mail to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001; by hand delivery to the NRC's offices at 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland; or, where practicable, by electronic submission, for example, via Electronic Information Exchange, or CD-ROM. The NRC confirms that NextEra's request was submitted in writing; therefore, NextEra meets this regulation.*

The NRC concludes that NextEra's fee exemption request meets the criteria specified in 10 CFR 170.11(a)(12) and 10 CFR 170.5; therefore, your fee waiver is approved. If you have any technical questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. Terry Beltz at 301-415-3049. Please contact Ms. Arlette Howard, of my staff, at 301-415-1481, for any fee-related questions.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

J. E. Dyer  
Chief Financial Officer

cc: T. Beltz, NRR

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Sincerely,

/RA/

J. E. Dyer  
Chief Financial Officer

cc: T. Beltz, NRR

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**ADAMS ACCESSION NO: ML13107B044**

**\*see email**

**OCFO-009**

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