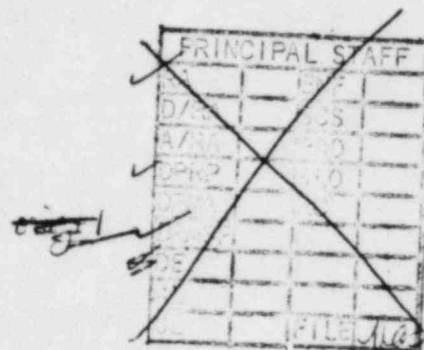




**Wisconsin Electric** POWER COMPANY  
231 W. MICHIGAN, P.O. BOX 2046, MILWAUKEE, WI 53201

June 16, 1983



STATE OF WISCONSIN  
Department of Natural Resources  
WPDES Permit Section  
P.O. Box 7921  
Madison, Wisconsin 53707

Gentlemen:

WPDES Permit No. WI-0000957-2  
POINT BEACH NUCLEAR PLANT

Wisconsin Electric Power Company hereby requests a modification of the WPDES permit for the Point Beach Nuclear Plant. The Company requests that the pH limitations on the sewage treatment plant (sample point 401) and the retention pond (sample point 501) effluents be removed from the above WPDES permit. The removal of the permit limits will allow operation of the sewage treatment plant and retention pond with reduced additions of dissolved solids to the environment.

Without final chemical adjustment, the effluent of the sewage treatment plant has a pH of 5.8 to 6.3 (s.u.). In order to meet the minimum pH limitation of 6.0, it is often necessary to add sodium hydroxide to the sewage treatment plant effluent. Since the sewage treatment plant effluent is routed directly to the retention pond, pH adjustment at this point is not necessary.

Wastewater from the makeup water treatment system, which is also routed to the retention pond, raises the pH of the retention pond. During the first four months of 1983, we have had six incidents of retention pond effluent pH that exceeded the maximum limitation of 9.0 (s.u.). On these occasions, it was necessary to add sulfuric acid to the retention pond in order to reduce the effluent pH to below 9.0 (s.u.).

The combined wastewaters from the retention pond are routed to one of the two once-through cooling water discharges (outfalls 001 and 002). The ratio of the average cooling water discharge flow to the average retention pond flow is approximately 7800:1. The cooling water provides adequate buffering capacity to neutralize the slightly excessive alkaline conditions of the retention pond effluent. The addition of retention pond effluent has minimal effect on the pH of the cooling water discharge, even in the event that retention pond effluent is outside the permit limitations. Since it is the discharge from the outfall that enter the environment, it is reasonable to have pH limits only on the discharge at the outfall.

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We are submitting this modification request at this time so that it may be considered during the reissuing process for the WPDES permit. If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact me.

Sincerely,

*Original signed by*

**J. W. Lingle**

James W. Lingle  
Superintendent  
Chemical Services Division  
Environmental Department

cc: DNR Lake Michigan District  
✓ NRC Region III  
NRC Washington, D.C.

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