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Document Control Desk
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Station P1-137
Washington, D.C. 20555

Gentlemen:

DOCKETS 50-266 AND 50-301
FIRE PROTECTION PROGRAM CHANGE
TO REMOVE AUTOMATIC FUEL OIL STORAGE TANK FIRE SUPPRESSION
POINT BEACH NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2

On August 2, 1979, the NRC forwarded the Fire Protection Safety Evaluation Report (FPSE) to Wisconsin Electric Power Company, licensee for Point Beach Nuclear Plant. Sections 4.3.1(6) and 5.15.4 of that report described an automatic foam extinguishing system for the two aboveground Fuel Oil Storage Tanks (T-32A&B). This suppression system had been installed prior to 1976 as part of the PBNP general fire protection design. Subsequent fire protection review led to including the description of this suppression system in the FPSE. We have recently reviewed the purpose of this system with respect to the underlying guidelines of Branch Technical Position (BTP) 9.5-1, and we have determined that the tank location and arrangement are adequate to ensure compliance with the BTP guidelines.

In compliance with 10 CFR 50.59, we have removed the subject foam suppression system to address high maintenance requirements. As documented in our evaluation, the addition of redundant underground fuel oil supplies to our emergency diesel generators has removed the fire protection safety function of the aboveground tanks. Therefore, tank location and arrangement are adequate to meet the fire protection guidelines of BTP 9.5-1. Based on our evaluation of these changes, the PBNP fire protection system continues to comply with Appendix R and the basis for the FPSE.

The PBNP FSAR, Fire Protection Evaluation Report, and related documents are being revised to document this change. If you have any questions or require additional information please contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'G. Krieser'.

Gary M. Krieser
Manager
Industry and Regulatory Services

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