

April 3, 1997

Mr. S. A. Patulski
Site Vice President
Point Beach Nuclear Plant
6610 Nuclear Road
Two Rivers, WI 54241

SUBJECT: NRC RADIATION PROTECTION INSPECTION REPORTS NO. 50-266/97004
(DRS); 50-301/97004(DRS) AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Patulski:

On March 7, 1997, the NRC completed an inspection at your Point Beach Nuclear Power Plant. The results of this inspection were discussed on that date with Mr. Fred Cayia and other members of your staff. The enclosed report presents the results of that inspection.

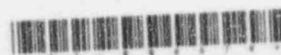
During this inspection, it was determined that your ALARA program was effectively implemented during the steam generator replacement project and dose was maintained reasonably low. We are concerned, however, about a high radiation area (HRA) boundary violation which occurred during the inspection period. This was the sixth HRA control problem identified through your condition reporting program in the past two years. This violation and the other HRA events are all related to the ineffectiveness of HRA access controls at your facility. This violation is of particular concern due to the recurring nature of this problem which indicates a continuing lack of attention toward radiological protection practice on the part of workers. Additionally, the involved individual indicated that he was unaware that he was prohibited from entering an area controlled for radiography which indicates that your radiation protection training program has not been effective.

The violation is cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation, and the circumstances surrounding the violation are described in detail in the enclosed report. Please note that you are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. The NRC will use your response, in part, to determine whether further enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

In addition to the response required by this letter, it is requested that the recurring high radiation area control problems be discussed at the routine management meeting at the Holiday Inn-Manitowoc in Manitowoc, WI on April 17, 1997, at 11:00 a.m. At the meeting, please be prepared to discuss the reasons for the ineffectiveness of your previous corrective actions for this problem, your planned corrective actions and why it is believed that they will be effective to prevent recurrence.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice, a copy of this letter, its enclosures, and your response to this letter will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

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April 3, 1997

We will gladly discuss any questions you have concerning this inspection.

Sincerely,

/s/ John A. Grobe

John A. Grobe, Deputy Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No. 50-266

Docket No. 50-301

Enclosures: 1. Notice of Violation
2. Inspection Reports No. 50-266/97004(DRS); 50-301/97004(DRS)

cc w/encls: R. R. Grigg, President and
Chief Operating Officer, WEPCo
A. J. Cayia, Plant Manager
Virgil Kanable, Chief, Boiler Section
Cheryl L. Parrino, Chairman,
Wisconsin Public Service Commission
State Liaison Officer

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