

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
Region III Office of Public Affairs
801 Warrenville Road, Lisle IL 60532-4351

NEWS ANNOUNCEMENT: RIII-97-01 January 2, 1997
CONTACT: Jan Strasma 630/829-9663
Angela Dauginas 630/829-9662
E-mail: opa3@nrc.gov

NRC STAFF TO MEET WITH WISCONSIN ELECTRIC TO DISCUSS
RECENT INSPECTION FINDINGS AND POINT BEACH 2 STARTUP ACTIVITIES

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will meet January 10 with representatives of Wisconsin Electric Power Company to discuss the findings of a special NRC team inspection at the Point Beach Nuclear Power Station. The nuclear facility is near Two Rivers, Wisconsin.

The NRC staff will also meet with utility officials to discuss the status of utility performance improvement initiatives and to consider issues to be resolved prior to restarting Unit 2 at the plant. Unit 2 has been shut down since October of last year for refueling and for replacement of its steam generators.

The meeting to discuss the team inspection findings will be at 10 a.m. on January 10. The second meeting will follow at 12:30 p.m. Both meetings, which are open to public observation, will be in the Two Creeks Town Hall at Highway 42 and Tapawingo Road north of Two Rivers.

The inspection by the 10-person NRC team began December 2 at the Point Beach plant near Two Rivers, Wisconsin. The team spent two weeks at the plant and then continued its inspection during the week of December 16 at the utility's corporate offices in Milwaukee.

The inspection was scheduled to provide a broad review of plant activities following problems in 1996 with control room operations and with the equipment testing program.

The team inspection included around-the-clock surveillance of routine activities in the plant's control room for several days. Inspectors also reviewed maintenance, testing, and engineering activities.

#