

January 29, 1997

EA 96-545

Mr. Lew W. Myers
Vice President - Nuclear
Centerior Service Company
P.O. Box 97, A200
Perry, OH 44081

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-440/96014(DRS) AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Myers:

On November 8, 1996, the NRC completed an inspection of your implementation of 10 CFR 50.65, "Requirements for Monitoring the Effectiveness of Maintenance at Nuclear Power Plants" (the maintenance rule) at the Perry Nuclear Power Plant. The enclosed report presents the results of that inspection.

Your program for implementing the requirements of the maintenance rule followed the guidance provided in NUMARC 93-01, "Industry Guideline for Monitoring the Effectiveness of Maintenance at Nuclear Power Plants," dated May 1993, which was endorsed in Regulatory Guide 1.160, "Monitoring the Effectiveness of Maintenance at Nuclear Power Plants," dated January 1995. Your program generally met the requirements of the maintenance rule.

The inspection team identified one violation of NRC requirements during this inspection. The violation involved the failure to conduct a risk assessment, as required by your plant procedures, prior to taking equipment out of service. This violation is of concern because it is one of several weaknesses in your overall program for risk assessment. In addition, unresolved items were identified regarding the potential misclassification of risk significant functions and your reliability performance criteria. Please provide your response to these unresolved items with your response to the violation.

The violation is cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice), and the circumstances surrounding the violation are described 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.

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PDR ADOCK 05000440
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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Sincerely,

/s/ G. E. Grant

Geoffrey E. Grant, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No. 50-440
License No. NPF-58

- Enclosures: 1. Notice of Violation
- 2. Inspection Report No. 50-440/96014(DRS)

- cc w/encls: J. P. Stetz, Senior Vice President - Nuclear
- L. W. Worley, Director, Nuclear Services Department
- H. L. Hegrat, Manager, Regulatory Affairs
- W. R. Kanda, Director, Perry Nuclear Assurance Department
- J. J. Powers, Director, Perry Nuclear Engineering Department
- H. Ray Caldwell, General Superintendent Nuclear Operations
- R. D. Brandt, General Manager, Operations
- Terry L. Lodge, Esq. State Liaison Officer, State of Ohio
- Robert E. Owen, Ohio Department of Health
- C. A. Glazer, State of Ohio Public Utilities Commission

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