

No. 94-26
Tel. 301-504-2240
1994)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
(Thursday, February 10,

NRC STAFF PROPOSES \$50,000 FINE AGAINST DETROIT EDISON COMPANY
FOR SAFETY VIOLATIONS AT FERMI 2 NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has proposed a \$50,000 fine against Detroit Edison Company for safety violations at the Fermi 2 Nuclear Power Plant. The Fermi plant is located 25 miles northeast of Toledo, Ohio.

An NRC inspection conducted October 12 to November 10, 1993, identified violations of NRC safety requirements by Detroit Edison for failure to adequately control work activities at the plant.

Detroit Edison was cited for failing to correct recurring work control deficiencies that had been repetitively identified by the Fermi staff over a two year period. This failure led to a September 17, 1993 incident in which three maintenance workers received first and second degree burns when a pressurized system was opened as a result of not taking the time to ensure the conditions were appropriate for the activity.

In notifying the company of the fine, NRC Regional Administrator John B. Martin stated: "The failure is significant because it allowed conditions to exist that could have had a significant impact on plant and personnel safety. To emphasize the need for increased management attention to corrective action programs and to stress the significance NRC places on ensuring safety as the highest priority in operating a nuclear facility, we are issuing the proposed civil penalty of \$50,000."

Following the incident, Detroit Edison took corrective actions that included: additional training; increasing management involvement; and reviewing work control procedures.

Detroit Edison has until March 5, 1994, to pay the fine or to protest it. If the fine is protested and subsequently imposed by the NRC staff, the utility may request a hearing.

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