

May 23, 2000

Dr. E. Linn Draper, Jr.
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
American Electric Power Company
1 Riverside Plaza
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Dr. Draper:

As you are aware, the NRC is in the initial implementation phase of its new Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) which was proposed to the Commission on February 24, 2000, in SECY-00-0049. During our transition to this process, we have continued to adhere to the revisions in the Senior Management Meeting (SMM) process that were first implemented for the April 1999 SMM. The NRC senior managers conducted this meeting on May 10 and 11, 2000, to determine if the safety performance of various licensees exhibits sufficient weaknesses to warrant increased NRC attention.

D. C. Cook had been previously classified as an agency-focus plant as a result of the April 1999 SMM. As a result of the May 2000 SMM, and consistent with the assessment and agency actions as described in the Plant Performance Review letter dated March 31, 2000, the NRC senior managers determined that D. C. Cook should continue to be classified as an agency-focus plant.

A summary of NRC discussions related to D. C. Cook follows:

The senior managers considered an evaluation matrix that analyzes current licensee performance in determining the appropriate agency response to the identified performance concerns. The licensee has made significant progress and has resolved the majority of the technical issues related to the plant shutdown as reflected in the closure of the Confirmatory Action Letter and progress toward completion of the NRC Inspection Manual Chapter (IMC) 0350, "Staff Guidance for Restart Approval," Case Specific Checklist. Also, the licensee has made improvements to programs and processes such as the corrective action program and the design control process. NRC staff has confirmed that the licensee's corrective action processes are sufficient to identify and resolve conditions adverse to quality. However, all corrective actions necessary to address deficiencies requiring resolution prior to restart have not been completed and safe plant operation has not been demonstrated.

The staff will continue to monitor and inspect licensee performance through the NRC IMC 0350 Restart Panel. The senior managers determined that D. C. Cook continues to warrant oversight as an agency-focus plant. The staff will also ensure the Commission remains informed of licensee recovery efforts.

Dr. E. Linn Draper, Jr.

2

James E. Dyer, the Region III Administrator, has discussed the bases for our conclusions with regard to D. C. Cook with members of your staff. An NRC Commission meeting, open to the public, is scheduled to be held in the Commissioners' Conference Room in Rockville, Maryland, on May 25, 2000, to review the results of the latest meeting of the NRC senior managers.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,

/RA/

William D. Travers
Executive Director for Operations

Docket Nos. 50-315; 50-316
License Nos. DPR-58; DPR-74

cc: See Attached List

James E. Dyer, the Region III Administrator, has discussed the bases for our conclusions with regard to D. C. Cook with members of your staff. An NRC Commission meeting, open to the public, is scheduled to be held in the Commissioners' Conference Room in Rockville, Maryland, on May 25, 2000, to review the results of the latest meeting of the NRC senior managers.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,

/RA/

William D. Travers
Executive Director for Operations

Docket Nos. 50-315; 50-316
License Nos. DPR-58; DPR-74

cc: See Attached List

Document Name: DCCOOKSMM2000LTR.WPD

Accessions Number:

To receive a copy of this document, indicate in the box "C" = Copy without attach/encl "E" =
Copy with attach/encl "N" = No copy

OFFICE	ROPMS	ROPMS	OGC	DEDR	EDO
NAME	KLandis	MSatorius	SBurns	FJMiraglia	WDTravers
DATE	05/23/00	05/23/00	05/23/00	05/23/00	05/23/00

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2

cc:

Regional Administrator, Region III
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
801 Warrenville Road
Lisle, IL 60532-4351

Attorney General
Department of Attorney General
525 West Ottawa Street
Lansing, MI 48913

Township Supervisor
Lake Township Hall
P.O. Box 818
Bridgman, MI 49106

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Resident Inspector's Office
7700 Red Arrow Highway
Stevensville, MI 49127

David W. Jenkins, Esquire
Indiana Michigan Power Company
Nuclear Generation Group
One Cook Place
Bridgman, MI 49106

Mayor, City of Bridgman
P.O. Box 366
Bridgman, MI 49106

Special Assistant to the Governor
Room 1 - State Capitol
Lansing, MI 48909

David F. Kunsemiller
Director, Regulatory Affairs
Indiana Michigan Power Company
Nuclear Generation Group
500 Circle Drive
Buchanan, MI 49107

Drinking Water and Radiological
Protection Division
Michigan Department of
Environmental Quality
3423 N. Martin Luther King Jr Blvd
P.O. Box 30630, CPH Mailroom
Lansing, MI 48909-8130

Robert C. Godley
Director, Regulatory Affairs
Indiana Michigan Power Company
Nuclear Generation Group
One Cook Place
Bridgman, MI 49106

David A. Lochbaum
Union of Concerned Scientists
1616 P Street NW, Suite 310
Washington, DC 20036-1495

A. Christopher Bakken, Site Vice President
Indiana Michigan Power Company
Nuclear Generation Group
One Cook Place
Bridgman, MI 49106

Michael W. Rencheck
Vice President, Nuclear Engineering
Indiana Michigan Power Company
Nuclear Generation Group
500 Circle Drive
Buchanan, MI 49107

Robert P. Powers, Senior Vice President
Indiana Michigan Power Company
Nuclear Generation Group
500 Circle Drive
Buchanan, MI 49107