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FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company

Perry Nuclear Power Plant  
10 Center Road  
Perry, Ohio 44081

John K. Wood  
Vice President, Nuclear

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March 27, 2001  
PY-CEI/OEPA-0350L

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency  
Northeast District Office  
Attention: Ms. Marie Underwood  
2110 E. Aurora Rd.  
Twinsburg, OH 44087-1969

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On 3/18/01, the Perry Nuclear Power Plant (PNPP) reported a Noncompliance in accordance with Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) Permit No. 3IB00016\*ED. This report was based on a suspected leak from the circulating water system during the time the system was being chlorinated. Further investigation revealed the system was not leaking during the chlorination event. Ms. Marie Underwood of the OEPA was informed at 0935 on 3/19/01 that the prior notification was incorrect. This letter serves as confirmation of the telephone report to Ms. Underwood. Also included is the information reported on 3/18/01, per the direction of Ms. Marie Underwood.

Per Part III, Section 12.B, the following information was reported on 3/18/01:

1. **The times at which the discharge occurred, and was discovered:** The discharge occurred between 0150 on 3/18/01 and 0350 on 3/18/01. It was discovered on 3/18/01 at 1100.
2. **The approximate amount and the characteristics of the discharge:** It is estimated that 600 gallons of water was discharged out to the ground. The discharge was Lake Water that came from the circulating water system. This water had been treated with chlorine. The concentration of chlorine was .26 PPM free available chlorine.
3. **The stream affected by the discharge:** Groundwater ultimately to Lake Erie.
4. **The circumstances which created the discharge:** A leaking manway cover on the circulating water system.
5. **The names and telephone numbers of the persons who have knowledge of these circumstances:** Environmental Specialist, Leo Harte 440-280-5514.

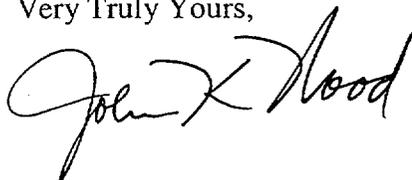
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6. **What remedial steps are being taken:** No further chlorinations until the leak is isolated and isolating the leak.
7. **The names and telephone numbers of the persons responsible for such remedial steps:** Mario DeStefano 440-280-5693.

As stated previously, this report was made based on the information available. Further investigation proved that the manway was not leaking during the chlorination event. The water in question was determined to be groundwater from melting snow. Therefore, no discharge of treated water to the ground occurred. Later, a leak from a manway was found to occur only during specific system evolutions that generated sufficient system pressure. However, no chlorination event occurred during the system evolutions that generated leakage. The manway was then tightened and verified not to leak under maximum system pressure achievable.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Mr. Leo Harte at (440)-280-5514.

Very Truly Yours,



cc: NRC Region III  
NRC Resident Inspector  
NRC Project Manager  
NRC Document Control Desk (Docket No. 50-440)