

April 19, 2001

Mr. R. P. Powers
Senior Vice President
Nuclear Generation Group
American Electric Power Company
500 Circle Drive
Buchanan, MI 49107-1395

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF THE APRIL 10, 2001, D. C. COOK PUBLIC MEETING

Dear Mr. Powers:

On April 10, 2001, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) held a public meeting at the D. C. Cook Training Center in Bridgman, Michigan. The meeting was held to discuss the operational performance of D. C. Cook Units 1 and 2, corrective action program effectiveness, operability determination evaluation process and quality enhancements, and the status of long term corrective actions associated with maintenance rule implementation and engineering design control process improvements. In addition, discussions were held regarding engineering, maintenance, and corrective action backlog reduction initiatives, including specific goals and objectives. Formal presentations were made by the Indiana Michigan Power Company (licensee) staff. Enclosure 1 is a list of attendees for the meetings, and a copy of the slides used by the licensee is provided as Enclosure 2.

The MC 0350 public meetings between the licensee and the NRC staff are designed to provide a mechanism for the exchange of information and an update on the status of D. C. Cook performance. High-level management from the NRC and the licensee participate in the meetings.

Following your opening remarks, your staff and the NRC staff held an extended discussion of implementation of the Maintenance Rule at D. C. Cook. Your engineering programs manager discussed implementation of the Maintenance Rule, including historical and present day practices. Your engineering programs manager stated that although implementation of the Maintenance Rule at D. C. Cook met regulatory requirements prior to the plant shutdown in 1997, numerous programmatic and implementation issues had been identified. During the extended shutdown that began in 1997; however, your staff suspended implementation of the Maintenance Rule while the industry continued with program improvements. Your engineering programs manager stated that an assessment of the Maintenance Rule was performed prior to Unit 2 restart, and detailed evaluations of system reliability were conducted as part of your expanded system readiness review process. In the Fall of 1999, your staff determined that the Maintenance Rule program was adequate to support restart of the Units, recognizing that problems still existed in several areas, including the structural monitoring and scoping processes.

Your engineering programs manager discussed progress made in restoring the Maintenance Rule Program, including re-staffing and personnel training, procedure and process enhancements, historical reviews and assessments, and approval of action plans. Your engineering programs manager stated that Maintenance Rule program ownership is being transitioned from engineering programs to systems engineering. Your staff stated that Maintenance Rule programmatic enhancements are complete and that your staff is continuing to implement the action plans. The NRC questioned your staff on why your internal oversight and engineering organizations failed to identify recent Maintenance Rule findings by the NRC resident staff in light of the previously identified weaknesses. Your staff acknowledged the failure to identify the recent findings and reiterated that further work needs to be done in this area.

Your design engineering and regulatory affairs director then discussed design control enhancements and provided an update on containment structure work status and schedule. Your design engineering and regulatory affairs director stated that although current engineering product quality is good, the focus remains on safe operation of the plant through better scheduling of work, easier access to design information, and greater emphasis on front end reviews of design change packages.

Regarding the containment structures, your design engineering and regulatory affairs director stated that all containment structures remain operable and that the extent of available margins are improving through the re-performance of calculations. Your design engineering and regulatory affairs director stated that D. C. Cook personnel are on schedule to complete validation of transient mass distribution inputs, structural evaluations and analyses, and identification of any licensing actions or modifications by the end of May 2001. The validation of transient mass distribution inputs for inaccessible Unit 2 parameters remain on schedule for the upcoming Unit 2 refueling outage. Your design engineering and regulatory affairs director stated that full design basis requirements for the missile shield blocks may not be met, and that your staff may pursue modifications or request a license amendment.

Your plant manager then discussed operational status and enhancements, including recent main feedwater/circulating water system problems, Unit 2 rod control system problems, and a Unit 1 solid state protection system power supply failure. Your plant manager stated that strengths included a timely decision among operators to trip the Unit 1 reactor within 6 seconds of a trip of the Unit's main feedwater pump, and maneuvering of the plant in a deliberate, controlled and conservative manner. Challenges included secondary plant lay-up issues, biological corrosion and intrusion issues, and rod control system issues. Your plant manager discussed the current status of operability determination evaluations, including long term plans to resolve the related issues. Your staff had developed preliminary work down curves and ownership of the evaluations belonged to operations department senior reactor operators.

Your plant manager then discussed corrective action program implementation. Recent changes had been made to your Corrective Action Review Board membership and timeliness goals have been reinforced. Your staff and the NRC staff discussed historical data and the trend goals depicted in the attached slides for condition reports, corrective maintenance items, and engineering modification packages. The backlog for the condition reports, corrective maintenance jobs, and engineering modification packages is large, and NRC questioned your

prioritization of the items and achievability of the work down curves you have established. Your plant manager then provided some perspective on focus for the future; namely, continued human performance improvement and leadership by the operations organization with response by support organizations.

The NRC staff and your staff concluded the meeting with a discussion on your long-term improvement initiatives and possible return to the routine oversight process. You discussed your D. C. Cook business plan, and indicated that D. C. Cook has committed substantial resources over the long term to accomplish the large backlog of items and to maintain continual improvement. You concluded the meeting by stating that safety remains the number one priority.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Geoffrey Grant, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Enclosures: 1. List of Meeting Attendees
2. Licensee's Slide Presentation

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

cc w/encl: A. C. Bakken III, Site Vice President
J. Pollock, Plant Manager
M. Rencheck, Vice President, Nuclear Engineering
R. Whale, Michigan Public Service Commission
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Emergency Management Division
MI Department of State Police
D. Lochbaum, Union of Concerned Scientists

***See previous concurrence**

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**D. C. Cook Nuclear Plant
April 10, 2001 NRC 0350 Restart Panel Meeting**

Name	Organization
Geoffrey Grant	NRC
Anton Vegel	NRC
Dave Passehl	NRC
Bruce Bartlett	NRC
Kevin Coyne	NRC
Joseph Maynen	NRC
Singh Bajwa	NRC
Claudia Craig	NRC
Rosemary Jones	NRC
Ron Gaston	AEP
Scot Greenlee	AEP
David Mayne	AEP
Phillip Melton	SBI
Teri Mottl	AEP
Jim Labis	AEP
Paul Zaffuts	Morgan Lewis
Tom Quaka	AEP
Stan Farlow	AEP
Milt Russell	BCSD
Brenda Kovarik	NESD
M. J. Finissi	AEP
R. Godley	AEP
Katie Bakken	Visitor
Mary Jane Moeller	Visitor
David Kunsemiller	AEP

Name	Organization
Bill Schalh	AEP
David Jenkins	AEP
Roger Rickman	AEP
Mike Danford	AEP
Steve Lacey	Plant Engineering
Randy Ebright	Engineering Programs
Bob Powers	Senior VP
Chris Bakken	Site VP
Joe Pollock	Plant Manager
Tom Noonan	Performance Assurance
Mike Hoskins	System Engineering
Ron Smith	Design Engineering
Toby Woods	Regulatory Affairs
Don Eggett	Automated Engineering