

October 17, 2001

Mr. Robert P. Powers, Senior Vice President
Indiana Michigan Power Company (I&M)
Nuclear Generation Group
500 Circle Drive
Buchanan, MI 49107

SUBJECT: DONALD C. COOK NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2 - TELEPHONE
CONFERENCE SUMMARY RE: RESPONSE TO NUCLEAR REGULATORY
COMMISSION (NRC) BULLETIN 2001-01, "CIRCUMFERENTIAL CRACKING OF
REACTOR PRESSURE VESSEL HEAD PENETRATION NOZZLES" (TAC NOS.
MB2624 AND MB2625)

Dear Mr. Powers:

Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Bulletin 2001-01, "Circumferential Cracking of Reactor Pressure Vessel Head Penetration Nozzles," was issued on August 3, 2001, regarding the recent discoveries of cracked and leaking Alloy 600 vessel head penetration (VHP) nozzles, including control rod drive mechanism and thermocouple nozzles, at four pressurized water reactors (PWRs), which raised concerns about the structural integrity of VHP nozzles throughout the PWR industry.

Your response to the bulletin for Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant (CNP), Units 1 and 2, was provided by letter dated September 4, 2001. You determined that, since a crack was discovered and repaired in Unit 2 in the 1994-96 time period, Unit 2 will be in the NRC category of, "Previously experienced either leakage from or cracking in VHP nozzles." Your response stated, in part, that, "CNP intends to perform a remote visual examination of all accessible VHPs under the reactor vessel head insulation during the next 2001 Unit 2 refueling outage." Due to a recent forced outage, you subsequently shifted your Unit 2 planned refueling outage date to begin on January 19, 2002, as confirmed by a telephone call on October 9, 2001, between J. Zwolinski, et al. (NRC) and M. Rencheck, et al. (I&M). By letter dated October 12, 2001, you submitted a revised response to the bulletin to eliminate reference to the year 2001 for the next Unit 2 refueling outage.

Your response to the bulletin and justification for delaying VHP examinations beyond the end of 2001 were discussed in telephone calls on October 11, 2001, between W. Bateman, et al. (NRC) and M. Rencheck, et al. (I&M) and on October 12, 2001, between B. Sheron, et al. (NRC) and M. Rencheck, et al. (I&M). At the conclusion of this telephone conference, you indicated that you would like to provide additional information to the staff regarding this issue. The staff is open to reviewing any new and relevant information regarding resolution of this issue.

R. Powers

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If you have any questions regarding this matter, I may be reached at (301) 415-1345.

Sincerely,

/RA by WReckley for/

John F. Stang, Senior Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate III
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-315 and 50-316

cc: See next page

R. Powers

- 2 -

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Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2

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