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Docket No. 50-341

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ACRS

Dear Mr. Tauber:

Subject: Request for an Exemption from a Full-Scale Emergency
Preparedness Exercise

In your letter dated January 7, 1983, you requested an exemption from the requirements of Section IV.F.1 of Appendix E to 10 CFR Part 50. Specifically, you requested that you be allowed to conduct a small-scale emergency preparedness exercise instead of a full-scale exercise. Part of the basis for your requested exemption was the successful completion of the full-scale exercise conducted on February 1-2, 1982. The requirement in Section IV.F.1.b of Appendix E is that a full-scale exercise be conducted "within one year before the issuance of the operating license for full power." Your estimated fuel load date when you submitted this request for an exemption was August 1983. Subsequently, you have slipped this estimate to December 30, 1983.

We believe that if you can load fuel in the Fermi-2 facility by your estimated date of December 30, 1983, the issuance of a full power license for Fermi-2 will not take place before April 1984. Additionally, there is a possibility that the estimated fuel load date of December 30, 1983, may be delayed by unforeseen events thereby delaying issuance of the full power license into the latter half of 1984. We conclude from these considerations that the issuance of a full power license for Fermi-2 will probably not occur before mid-1984 and that this estimate is subject to some uncertainty.

Accordingly, we recommend that you withdraw your requested exemption. Further action with regard to this matter should be deferred until such time as both you and the NRC staff can reasonably agree on a firm estimate for issuance of the Fermi-2 full power license.

In your letter of January 7, 1983, you also requested that a small-scale emergency preparedness exercise be rescheduled from April 1983 to October 4-5, 1983. While we do not discourage small-scale exercises, we do not regard this small-scale exercise as an alternate to a full-scale exercise for receiving a full-power license in mid-1984 or later.

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If you have any questions on this matter, please contact the Fermi-2 Project Manager, M. D. Lynch, at 301-492-7050.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:
B. J. Youngblood

B. J. Youngblood, Chief
Licensing Branch No. 1
Division of Licensing

cc: See next page

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