

Mr. Douglas R. Gipson
Senior Vice President
Nuclear Generation
Detroit Edison Company
6400 North Dixie Highway
Newport, Michigan 48166

Dear Mr. Gipson:

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT -
FERMI 2 - (TAC NO. M89394)

Enclosed is a copy of the Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact related to your application for exemption dated April 19, 1994, as supplemented June 23, 1994. The proposed exemption would provide a one-time relief from the requirements of 10 CFR 50, Appendix E, Section IV.F.3, to perform a partial participation emergency preparedness exercise in 1994.

The assessment is being forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Timothy G. Colburn, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate III-I
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
Environmental Assessment

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

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DATE	07/19/94	07/19/94	07/26/94	07/29/94

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Mr. Douglas R. Gipson
Detroit Edison Company

Fermi-2

cc:

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONDETROIT EDISON COMPANYDOCKET NO. 50-341FERMI 2ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OFNO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an exemption from Facility Operating License No. NPF-43, issued to Detroit Edison Company, (the licensee), for operation of the Fermi 2 facility, located in Monroe County, Michigan.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTIdentification of the Proposed Action:

The proposed action would grant an exemption from the requirements of Appendix E, Section IV.F.3 of 10 CFR Part 50 to conduct a partial participation emergency preparedness exercise in 1994.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for exemption dated April 19, 1994, as supplemented by letter dated June 23, 1994.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The licensee has stated that its response to the turbine failure emergency event on December 25, 1993, demonstrated the adequacy of its emergency plan and its ability to successfully respond to an accident. Granting of the proposed exemption would allow the licensee to spend resources which would normally be dedicated to the planning and conduct of the exercise on repairing the damage to the plant and restarting the facility. The

licensee would still support the State and local authorities during the conduct of their offsite exercise on September 20, 1994, and would conduct its next onsite exercise in July 1995.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The proposed exemption would allow a one-time exemption from the requirement to conduct an emergency preparedness exercise. The licensee has demonstrated excellent performance in the area of emergency preparedness during the last two systematic assessment of licensee's performance periods. Additionally, the licensee has demonstrated an ongoing commitment to maintain the high performance level of the emergency preparedness program by conducting five full-scale drills, and a medical drill since its last annual partial participation exercise in July 1993.

During the December 25, 1993, turbine failure accident, the licensee was required to implement its emergency plan and activate a portion of its emergency response organization including the technical support center, operations support center and alternate operations support center. Additionally, a declaration of Alert was made in response to the turbine failure which caused a reactor scram, a fire and severe damage to turbine auxiliary systems. The Augmented Inspection Team report following the event identified some problems with event classification, personnel accountability and response of the fire brigade. In response to these findings, the licensee has performed additional training, modified procedures and conducted an integrated onsite drill on June 8, 1994.

The licensee will support the State and local offsite exercise in September 1994. State and local authorities who are involved with emergency preparedness, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency, have indicated their concurrence with the licensee's proposed exemption. The staff has determined that the granting of this exemption will not degrade the effectiveness of the licensee's emergency preparedness program nor will it present an undue risk to public health and safety. Therefore, post-accident radiological releases are not expected to exceed previously determined values as a result of the proposed action. Further, the exemption is not expected to have an impact on plant radiological effluent releases.

The change will not increase the probability or consequences of any accidents, no changes are being made in the types of any effluents that may be released offsite, and there is no significant increase in the allowable individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed action involves features located entirely within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. It does not affect nonradiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action:

Since the Commission concluded that there are no significant environmental effects that would result from the proposed action, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impacts need not be evaluated.

The principal alternative would be to deny the requested exemption. This would not reduce environmental impacts of plant operation and would result in the use of resources to conduct the emergency preparedness exercise which could be utilized for the repair and restart of the damaged turbine.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement for the Fermi 2 plant, dated August 1981.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

The staff consulted with the State of Michigan official regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Based upon the environmental assessment, the Commission concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

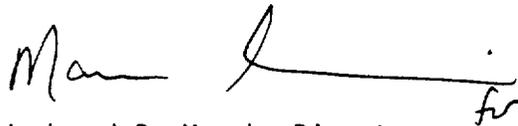
Accordingly, the Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed exemption.

For further details with respect to this proposed action, see the licensee's request for exemption dated April 19, 1994, as supplemented on

June 23, 1994. These documents are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20555, and at the local public document room located at the Monroe County Library System, 3700 South Custer Road, Monroe, Michigan 48161.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 29th day of July 1994.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marsh", followed by a long horizontal line and a small flourish.

Ledyard B. Marsh, Director
Project Directorate III-I
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation