

August 2, 2002

Mr. Michael Mulligan
5 Woodlawn Lane
Hinsdale, NH 03451

Dear Mr. Mulligan:

This letter addresses your e-mail dated July 3, 2002, to Mr. Victor Dricks of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). Your e-mail (Enclosure) references an NRC letter dated June 24, 2002, "Fermi Power Plant NRC Inspection Report 50-431/01-05 (DRS) Addendum." You note that the June 24 letter states for RFI #32 that the Fermi Residual Heat Removal (RHR) system was designed for 30 suppression pool cooling events at 8 hours each, for a total of 240 hours and that Fermi had exceeded its design lifetime hours.

The design-basis document (DBD) 4.1.2.16 referenced in RFI #32 is a reference document and not part of the licensee's licensing or design basis. The DBD is not a document that contains requirements and is not controlled by 10 CFR 50.59.

As noted in our letter to you dated February 13, 2002, regarding suppression pool cooling, the NRC staff has previously addressed and evaluated the suppression pool cooling issue and will continue to monitor this process.

Thank you for your continued interest.

Sincerely,

/RA R. Laufer for/

Stuart A. Richards, Director
Project Directorate I
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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