

October 17, 2002

Mr. William T. O'Connor, Jr.  
Vice President - Nuclear Generation  
Detroit Edison Company  
6400 North Dixie Highway  
Newport, MI 48166

SUBJECT: FERMI 2 - REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING PROPOSED LICENSE AMENDMENT FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE BOILING WATER REACTOR VESSEL AND INTERNALS PROJECT (BWRVIP) INTEGRATED SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM (ISP) PLAN FOR REACTOR PRESSURE VESSEL (RPV) MATERIAL SURVEILLANCE AND DEFERRAL OF REPORTING THE FIRST REACTOR PRESSURE VESSEL SURVEILLANCE CAPSULE TEST RESULTS (TAC NO. MB5840)

Dear Mr. O'Connor:

By application dated August 8, 2002, you submitted a license amendment request to incorporate the boiling-water reactor (BWR) Integrated Surveillance Program (ISP) in the Fermi 2 plant licensing basis. On August 14, September 19, and October 7, 2002, we conducted teleconferences with representatives of your staff to discuss your August 8, 2002, application. During these teleconferences, we requested additional information regarding your commitment for updating the reactor pressure vessel (RPV) neutron fluence calculations using an NRC-approved methodology consistent with the guidance in Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.190, "Calculational and Dosimetry Methods for Determining Pressure Vessel Neutron Fluence." More specifically, we requested that you quantify the vessel fluence used to estimate the pressure/temperature curves. This is to account for the interim period until a planned fluence recalculation is carried in accordance with RG 1.190. You projected that the recalculation will be performed within the next two operating cycles. To this end, you can use conservative factors to demonstrate that indeed the delay in the recalculation is justifiable. We also requested that the proposed revision to the Fermi 2 Updated Final Safety Analysis Report, describing implementation of the BWRVIP ISP, be submitted for our review. Your staff agreed to a prompt response to the requested additional information.

During the conference call on September 19, 2002, you requested that we address the status of the first Fermi 2 RPV surveillance capsule, which, as stated in the August 8, 2002, application, would have to be tested and the results reported to the NRC by October 29, 2002. You expressed a concern that due to delays (associated with this being a first-of-its-kind submittal) which have occurred in the processing the August 8, 2002, application, we may have insufficient time to complete our review of the application prior to October 29, 2002. This is significant because if Fermi 2 is approved to participate in the BWRVIP RPV ISP, the Fermi 2 surveillance capsules would not have to be tested, nor the results reported to the NRC.

W. O'Connor

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We approved the reporting date of October 29, 2002, by letter dated January 16, 2001, in response to information you submitted in support a one-cycle deferral in the surveillance capsule reporting date. We reviewed the information you provided in letters dated September 29 and December 13, 2000, which were submitted in support the existing October 29, 2002, reporting date. We have concluded that the information provided would support extending the reporting date of the first Fermi 2 RPV surveillance capsule withdrawal test results further to January 31, 2003. Therefore, in accordance with the requirements in Section IV of Appendix H to 10 CFR Part 50, we hereby grant an extension to you regarding the reporting of the test results for the first Fermi 2 RPV surveillance capsule until January 31, 2003. This should provide sufficient time for us to resolve any remaining issues with the August 8, 2002, application. However, should the resolution of these issues result in Fermi 2 not being approved to participate in the BWRVIP RPV ISP, the results of the testing of the first Fermi 2 RPV surveillance capsule would be due by January 31, 2003.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please contact the Fermi 2 Project Manager, T. J. Kim, at (301) 415-1392.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

L. Raghavan, Chief, Section 1  
Project Directorate III  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-341

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 Division of Licensing Project Management  
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Fermi 2

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March 2002