February 24, 2004

The Honorable Kenneth Meshigaud, Chairperson
Hannahville Indian Community Council
N14911 Hannahville B1 Road
Wilson, MI 49896-9728

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR COMMENTS CONCERNING DONALD C. COOK NUCLEAR PLANT APPLICATION FOR OPERATING LICENSE RENEWAL

Dear Chairperson Meshigaud:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is seeking input for its environmental review of an application from the Indiana Michigan Power Company (I&M) to renew the operating licenses for the Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2 (CNP), located in Berrien County, Michigan. CNP is in close proximity to lands that may be of interest to the Potawatomi Tribe. As described below, the NRC process includes an opportunity for public and inter-governmental participation in the environmental review. We want to ensure that you are aware of our efforts and, pursuant to the 10 CFR 51.28(b), the NRC invites the Hannahville Indian Community Council to provide input to the scoping process relating to the NRC's environmental review of the application. In addition, as outlined in 36 CFR 800.8, the NRC plans to coordinate compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 through the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

Under NRC regulations, the original operating license for a nuclear power plant is issued for up to 40 years. The license may be renewed for up to an additional 20 years if NRC requirements are met. The current operating licenses for CNP Units 1 and 2 will expire in December 2014 and December 2017, respectively. I&M submitted its application for renewal of the CNP operating licenses on November 3, 2003.

The NRC is gathering information for a CNP-specific supplement to its "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants" (GEIS), NUREG-1437. The supplement will contain the results of the review of the environmental impacts on the area surrounding the CNP site that are related to terrestrial ecology, aquatic ecology, hydrology, cultural resources, and socioeconomic issues (among others) and will contain a recommendation regarding the environmental acceptability of the license renewal action.

The NRC will hold two public scoping meetings for the CNP license renewal supplement to the GEIS on March 8, 2004, at the Lake Charter Township Hall, 3220 Shawnee Road, Bridgman, Michigan 49106-9736. There will be two sessions to accommodate interested parties. The first session will convene at 1:30 p.m. and will continue until 4:30 p.m., as necessary. The second session will convene at 7:00 p.m., with a repeat of the overview portions of the meeting, and will continue until 10:00 p.m., as necessary. Additionally, the NRC staff will host informal discussions one hour before the start of each session. To be considered, comments must be provided either at the transcribed public meetings or in writing. No formal comments on the proposed scope of the supplement to the GEIS will be accepted during informal discussions.

The application is electronically available for inspection from the Publicly Available Records component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS)

under Accession Number ML033070179. ADAMS is accessible at http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html which provides access through the NRC's Public Electronic Reading Room (PERR) link. If you do not have access to ADAMS or if there are problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, contact the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR) Reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 1-301-415-4737, or by e-mail at pdr@nrc.gov. In addition, the application can be viewed on the Internet at http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal/applications/cook.html.

A paper copy of the application can be viewed at the NRC's PDR, located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland, 20855-2738; the Bridgman Public Library, 4460 Lake Street, Bridgman, Michigan 49106-9510; and the Maud Preston Palenske Memorial Library, 500 Market Street, St. Joseph, Michigan 49085-1368. The GEIS, which assesses the scope and impact of environmental effects that would be associated with license renewal at any nuclear power plant site, can also be found on the NRC's website or at the NRC's PDR.

Please submit any written comments that the Hannahville Indian Community Council may have to offer on the scope of the environmental review by April 6, 2004. Comments should be submitted by mail to the Chief, Rules and Directives Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Mail Stop T-6D59, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington D.C. 20555-0001. At the conclusion of the scoping process, the NRC staff will prepare a summary of the significant issues identified and the conclusions reached and will mail a copy to you.

The NRC will issue the draft supplemental environmental impact statement (SEIS) for public comment (anticipated publication date, September 2004), and will hold another set of public meetings in the site vicinity to solicit comments on the draft. A copy of the draft SEIS will be sent to you for your review and comment. After consideration of public comments received on the draft, the NRC will prepare a final SEIS. The issuance of a final SEIS for CNP is planned for June 2005. If you need additional information regarding the environmental review process, please contact Mr. Robert G. Schaaf, Environmental Project Manager, at 1-301-415-1312 or by e-mail at rgs@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,
/RA/
Pao-Tsin Kuo, Program Director
License Renewal and Environmental Impacts
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos.: 50-315 and 50-316

Enclosures:
1. CNP Transmission Line Map
2. CNP Site Layout

cc w/encls.: See next page

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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos.: 50-315 and 50-316

Enclosures:
1. CNP Transmission Line Map
2. CNP Site Layout

cc w/encls.: See next page

Distribution: See next page

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DATE	02/17/04	02/18/04	02/19/04	02/24/04

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DISTRIBUTION: Ltr. to the Honorable K. Meshigaud, Re: D.C. Cook, Dated: February 24, 2004
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Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2

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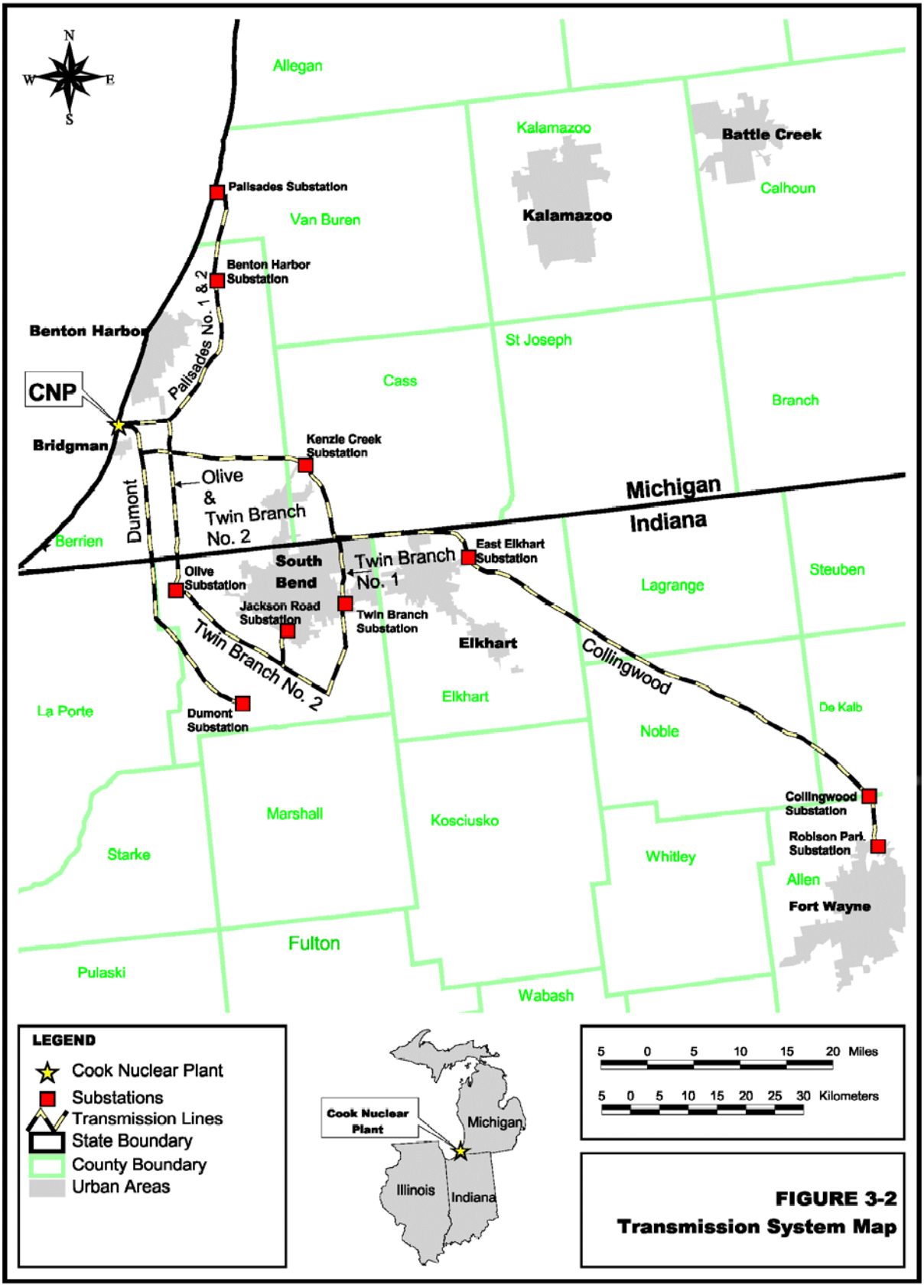

FIGURE 3-2
Transmission System Map

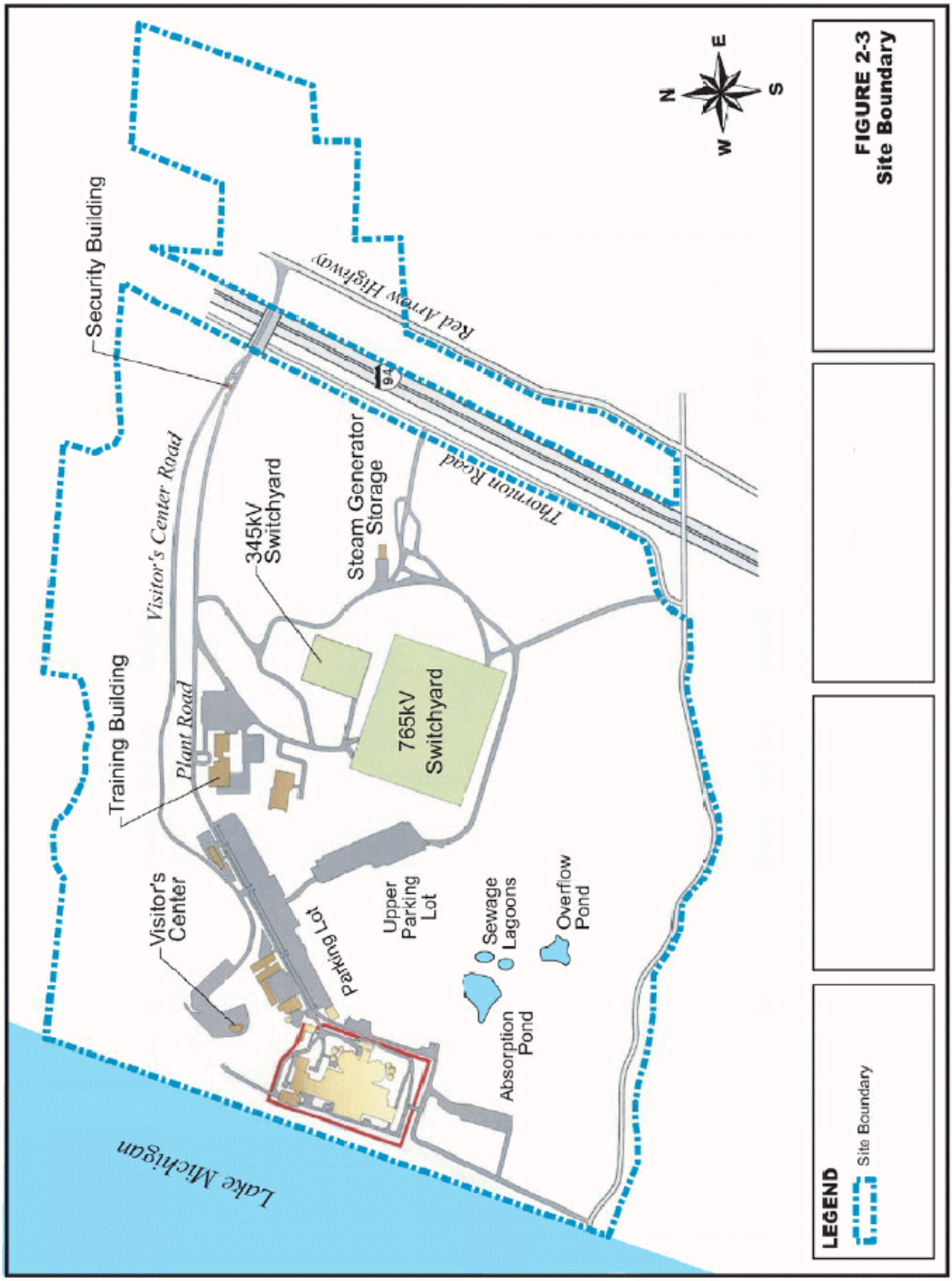

FIGURE 2-3
Site Boundary