

April 21, 2004

Mr. M. Nazar
Senior Vice President and
Chief Nuclear Officer
Nuclear Generation Group
American Electric Power Company
500 Circle Drive
Buchanan, MI 49107

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF THE D.C. COOK PLANT PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT
MEETING ON APRIL 7, 2004

Dear Mr. Nazar:

This letter refers to the meeting held on April 7, 2004, at 6:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) at the Lake Charter Township Hall in Bridgman, Michigan. The purpose of the meeting was for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to discuss the D.C. Cook plant performance issues identified in the March 4, 2004 annual assessment letter to D.C. Cook plant management.

At the meeting, the NRC discussed the Reactor Oversight Process, the national summary of plant performance, and the plant-specific end-of-cycle assessment results for D.C. Cook Unit 1 and Unit 2. The plant-specific discussion included the placement of D.C. Cook Unit 1 in the Licensee Response column of the NRC's Action Matrix at the end of the assessment period; the placement of D.C. Cook Unit 2 in the Degraded Cornerstone column of the NRC's Action Matrix at the end of the assessment period; and the continued presence of a cross-cutting issue in the area of Problem Identification and Resolution. Senior NRC management stressed that without an effective corrective action program, the overall success of other efforts to improve plant performance would be limited.

Following the presentation of the NRC's assessment of D.C. Cook performance, American Electric Power (AEP) provided a presentation of their ongoing efforts to improve plant performance at D.C. Cook. These efforts focused on the establishment of an effective corrective action program. During the presentation, senior AEP management repeatedly discussed the need for an effective corrective action program to improve D.C. Cook plant performance and provided their vision and plans to realize this improvement.

The meeting attendance list is enclosed. The handouts provided by the NRC and AEP at the meeting are available in ADAMS (accession number ML041050467 and ML041110829; ML041110846).

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rule of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Mr. Eric Duncan at (630) 829-9628.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Eric R. Duncan, Chief
Branch 6
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 50-315; 50-316
License Nos. DPR-58; DPR-74

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/encl: J. Jensen, Site Vice President
M. Finissi, Plant Manager
R. Whale, Michigan Public Service Commission
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Emergency Management Division
MI Department of State Police
D. Lochbaum, Union of Concerned Scientists

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R. Whale, Michigan Public Service Commission
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Emergency Management Division
MI Department of State Police
D. Lochbaum, Union of Concerned Scientists

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Enclosure

D.C. COOK END-OF-CYCLE PLANT PERFORMANCE MEETING PRINCIPAL ATTENDEES
April 7, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. EDT

American Electric Power Company - D.C. Cook Nuclear Plant

M. Nazar, Senior Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer
J. Jensen, Site Vice President
J. Zwolinski, Design Engineering and Regulatory Affairs Director
L. Weber, Performance Assurance Director

NRC

J. Caldwell, Region III Administrator
P. Hiland, Acting Deputy Director, Division of Reactor Projects, Region III
E. Duncan, Chief, Branch 6, Division of Reactor Projects, Region III
B. Kemker, D.C. Cook Senior Resident Inspector
I. Netzel, D.C. Cook Resident Inspector
R. Ng, Reactor Engineer
R. Ruiz, Reactor Engineer