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November 30, 2006
PY-CEI/NRR-2999L

ATTN: Document Control Desk
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Perry Nuclear Power Plant
Docket No. 50-440

Subject: Withdrawal of In-service Inspection Proposed Alternative Request IR-54

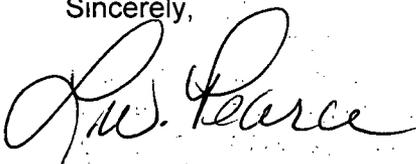
Ladies and Gentlemen:

By letter dated September 5, 2006 (letter number PY-CEI/NRR-2983L), FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company (FENOC) requested a proposed alternative in accordance with 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i) for in-service inspection of Reactor Pressure Vessel pressure-retaining nozzle-to-vessel welds and nozzle inner radii for the Perry Nuclear Power Plant (PNPP). Included in the letter was acknowledgement that approval of the request was contingent on issuing the final safety evaluation of Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) Technical Report 1003557, "BWRVIP-108: BWR Vessel and Internals Project, Technical Basis for the Reduction of Inspection Requirements for the Boiling Water Reactor Nozzle-to-Vessel Shell Welds and Nozzle Blend Radii."

Because issuance of the NRC safety evaluation for EPRI Technical Report 1003557 is not anticipated in the near future, NRC approval of PNPP Proposed Alternative Request IR-54 is not likely to occur in time to provide the radiological dose reduction benefits desired for the PNPP refueling outage in March 2007. Accordingly, FENOC hereby withdraws In-service Inspection Proposed Alternative Request IR-54.

There are no regulatory commitments contained in this letter. If there are any questions or if additional information is required, please contact Mr. Gregory A. Dunn, Manager – Fleet Licensing, at (330) 315-7243.

Sincerely,



L. William Pearce

cc: NRC Project Manager
NRC Resident Inspector
NRC Region III

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