## **2.4 Hydrology**

#### **EF3 COL 2.0-12-A** 2.4.1 **Hydrologic Description**

<span id="page-0-1"></span>[Subsection 2.4.1.1](#page-0-0) provides a general overview of the topography and hydrology in the site vicinity. [Subsection 2.4.1.2](#page-1-0) provides a discussion of the hydrosphere at Fermi 3 including local watersheds.

## <span id="page-0-0"></span>2.4.1.1 **Site and Facilities**

The Fermi site is located in the southeastern corner of Monroe County in southern Michigan, near the northern border of Ohio about 32 km (20 mi) north of the Michigan/Ohio border. The U.S./Canada international border runs through Lake Erie about 11 km (7 mi) east of the Fermi site. The Fermi site is on the west bank of Lake Erie, approximately 39 km (24 mi) northeast of Toledo, Ohio and 48 km (30 mi) southwest of Detroit, Michigan. The Fermi site encompasses approximately 510 hectares (1,260 acres), of which approximately 191 hectares (471 acres) will be utilized for the construction and operation of Fermi 3. Fermi 3 will be situated further inland than Fermi 2, approximately 0.40 km (0.25 mi) west of Lake Erie's shoreline.

The topography of the site is flat to gentle rolling plain. Site elevations range from the level of Lake Erie to approximately 7.6 m (25 ft) above the lake level on the western edge of the site. The topography on the Fermi site is relatively level in the undeveloped areas, with an elevation range of approximately 3 m (10 ft) over the site according to U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic maps. [Figure 2.4-209](#page-145-0) and [Figure 2.4-210](#page-146-0) show USGS topographic maps of the 12-km (7.5-mi) vicinity and the Fermi property boundary, respectively. Lake Erie has an elevation of approximately 174 m (571 ft), while the area around the Fermi site ranges from 176 to 183 m (577 to 600 ft). The existing plant grade of elevation 177.7 m (583.0 ft) plant grade datum will be altered to 179.8 m (590.0 ft) plant grade datum. Fermi 3 safety-related facilities will be at a nominal grade of 178.0 m (590.5 ft) plant grade datum.

As described in [DCD Section 1.2,](#page-16-0) the plant arrangement is composed of seven principal plant structures: the Reactor Building, Control Building, Fuel Building, Turbine Building, Radwaste Building, Electrical Building, and Service Building. The Reactor/Fuel Building (R/FB), Control Building (CB), and Fire Water Service Complex (FWSC) are the only three

Seismic Category I structures of Fermi 3. A site plan showing the relative locations of the various Fermi 3 structures is shown on [Figure 2.4-211.](#page-147-0) Seismic information pertaining to the Fermi site and vicinity is discussed in Subsection 2.5.1.

Lake Erie is the primary makeup water source for the CIRC, PSWS, and Fire Protection System (FPS). Additional water needs for potable water and makeup demineralizer water are supplied by the Frenchtown Township municipal water supply. Fermi 3 will utilize the intake bay currently in use by Fermi 2 and a newly constructed pump house to draw water from Lake Erie. Fermi 2 will continue to use both the intake bay and its current pumping location. Blowdown water and neutralized demineralizer waste will be discharged through a newly constructed outfall pipe.

Storm water runoff from the existing Fermi site flows to three drainage outlets, two ponds (Pond 1 and Stagnant Pond), and a drainage outfall pipe [\(Figure 2.4-214\)](#page-150-0). Storm water runoff from the Fermi 3 final grade will flow into onsite drop inlets within the local drainage system, discharging to an outfall pipe. The outfall pipe discharges to an overflow canal which then enters the North Lagoon. The North Lagoon discharges to Swan Creek which feeds Lake Erie. Runoff may also drain by sheet flow to the North Lagoon and South Lagoon. ([Figure 2.4-215](#page-151-0) and [Figure 2.4-217\)](#page-153-0) The effects of Probable Maximum Precipitation (PMP) on site runoff are described in [Subsection 2.4.2](#page-6-0).

Soil characteristics are discussed in Subsection 2.5.4.

# <span id="page-1-0"></span>2.4.1.2 **Hydrosphere**

The Great Lakes Region is depicted in [Figure 2.4-204.](#page-140-0) This region includes much of the Canadian Province of Ontario and eight U.S. states that border the Great Lakes: New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Minnesota. depicts the hydrological pattern of the Great Lakes system. The following sections describe the hydrosphere surrounding Fermi 3 in more detail. The flooding potential of streams and rivers near the Fermi site is discussed in [Subsection 2.4.3](#page-12-0).

# 2.4.1.2.1 **Swan Creek Watershed**

The Fermi site is located within the 275 km<sup>2</sup> (106 mi<sup>2</sup>) Swan Creek Watershed ([Figure 2.4-208](#page-144-0)), which has an elliptical-shaped basin trending northwest-southeast. The mouth of Swan Creek is located

approximately 1.6 km (1 mi) north of the Fermi site. The Swan Creek Watershed is the smallest drainage basin within the region and is bordered by the Huron River Basin to the north and the River Raisin Basin to the south. The Swan Creek Watershed contributes a small water flow to the relatively large water capacity of Lake Erie; however, under flood conditions it may have an impact locally at the site ([Subsection 2.4.3\)](#page-12-0).

## 2.4.1.2.2 **Lake Erie**

A regional view of Lake Erie and its major tributaries is shown on [Figure](#page-139-0) [2.4-203](#page-139-0). Furthermore, [Figure 2.4-205](#page-141-0) shows the 12-km (7.5-mi) Exclusion Area Boundary (EAB) perimeter with water bodies and land features identified. The  $60,600$  km<sup>2</sup> (23,400 mi<sup>2</sup>) Lake Erie Drainage Basin is a sub-basin of the 774,000  $km^2$  (299,000  $mi^2$ ) Great Lakes Drainage Basin. The bathymetry of Lake Erie is shown on [Figure](#page-138-0) [2.4-202](#page-138-0). [Figure 2.4-201](#page-137-0) and [Figure 2.4-202](#page-138-0) show that Lake Erie is identified mainly by three separate basins:

- The western basin of Lake Erie is a very shallow basin with an average depth of 7.4 m (24 ft). The western basin is partially restricted from the rest of Lake Erie by a chain of barrier beaches and islands.
- The central basin of Lake Erie is uniform in depth with an average depth of 18.3 m (60 ft) and maximum depth of 25 m (82 ft).
- The eastern basin of Lake Erie is a small, relatively deep basin. The average depth in the eastern basin is 25 m (82 ft) with a maximum depth of 64 m (210 ft).

[Figure 2.4-203](#page-139-0) depicts the Lake Erie Drainage Basin and its twelve main tributaries: the Ashtabula River, Black River, Buffalo River, Clinton River, Cuyahoga River, Detroit River, Maumee River, Presque isle Bay, River Raisin, Rouge River, St Clair River, and the Wheatley Harbour.

Lake Erie is the shallowest, warmest, most southern and most biologically productive of all the Great Lakes. It supports more than eleven million people and eleven major ports and spans approximately 388 km (241 mi) with a breadth of 92 km (57 mi). The length of its shoreline is approximately 1,402 km (871 mi). Lake Erie has an average depth of 19 m (62 ft), a maximum depth of approximately 64 m (210 ft), a water surface area of approximately 25,670 km<sup>2</sup> (9,910 mi<sup>2</sup>), and a volume of approximately 484 km<sup>3</sup> (116 mi<sup>3</sup>) ([Reference 2.4-202](#page-77-0)). The retention time of Lake Erie is 2.6 years, which is the shortest of all the Great Lakes ([Reference 2.4-201\)](#page-77-1). The lake is slow and meandering, and its velocity varies due to wind currents and seasonal climate change. The average flow rate of Lake Erie, according to data recorded by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), is 5,710  $km^3/s$  (201,750 cfs) ([Reference 2.4-217\)](#page-79-0).

The Fermi site is protected by a shoreline barrier against the high water levels of Lake Erie. The rock shore barrier is located in front of Fermi 2 and Fermi 3 along the shore between Plant Coordinate System Grid N6800 and N7800. The rock shore barrier crest elevation is 178 m (583 ft) plant grade datum. The barrier is significant and historically functioned in keeping the shoreline bordering the site from eroding inland. Accordingly, a detailed analysis of local erosion characteristics and sediment transport is not necessary. Potential effects due to storm surge and seiche flooding are described in [Subsection 2.4.3.](#page-12-0)

# 2.4.1.2.3 **Detroit River**

The Detroit River is the largest and most important tributary for the western basin of Lake Erie as it provides approximately 80 percent of Lake Erie's water inflow [\(Reference 2.4-219\)](#page-79-1). The water quality of the western basin of the lake for the most part is similar to the Detroit River. The river has four monitoring stations which have been established by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The stations are located in Windmill Point, MI; Fort Wayne, MI; Wyandotte, MI; and Gibraltar, MI, listed from north to south with the Gibraltar station being the closest to the Fermi site. The outlet mouth of the Detroit River is approximately 26.6 km (16.5 mi) northeast of the Fermi site.

The Detroit River is about 51 km (32 mi) long from its head at the Windmill Point Light to its mouth at the Detroit River Light in Lake Erie. The decrease in water level from Lake St. Clair to Lake Erie is approximately 1 m (3 ft). The average velocity of the Detroit River has been estimated to be approximately 0.1 m/s (0.3 fps) in the winter months and as high as 0.2 m/s (0.5 fps) during summer months ([Reference 2.4-220](#page-79-2)). The annual average flow-rate for the Detroit River during 2006 was 4,999  $\mathrm{m}^3$ /s (176,538 cfs).

# 2.4.1.2.4 **Stony Creek**

The Stony Creek Watershed is located in Washtenaw County and Monroe County in Southeastern Michigan. Stony Creek empties into the

western basin of Lake Erie approximately 5 km (3 mi) southwest of the Fermi site. The watershed for Stony Creek is shown on [Figure 2.4-208](#page-144-0).

Stony Creek has a drainage area of approximately 326  $km^2$  (126 mi<sup>2</sup>). There is no anticipated interface between Stony Creek and the construction and operation of Fermi 3. However, Stony Creek does impact sediment and other water quality characteristics within the western basin of Lake Erie in the vicinity of the Fermi site.

## 2.4.1.2.5 **River Raisin**

The River Raisin is located in the extreme southeastern portion of Michigan's Lower Peninsula and flows in a generally southeast direction, discharging into the western basin of Lake Erie at Monroe Harbor, approximately 9.6 km (6 mi) southwest of the Fermi 3 site. The river is approximately 185 km (115 mi) long, and its drainage area comprises approximately 2,770  $km^2$  (1,070 mi<sup>2</sup>) of Southeast Michigan.

There is no anticipated interface between River Raisin and the construction and operation of Fermi 3. However, the River Raisin does impact sediment and other water quality characteristics within the western basin of Lake Erie in the vicinity of the Fermi site.

# 2.4.1.2.6 **Additional Surface-Water Considerations**

The site contains a man-made water basin that supports the functioning of the circulating water system for Fermi 2. Fermi 3 will not make use of this water basin, and the construction and operation of Fermi 3 will not impact this water basin. In addition, the site contains two Quarry Lakes that were established following rock quarry operations in support of site development activities for the construction of Fermi 2. Fermi 3 will not make use of the Quarry Lakes. The only impact to the Quarry Lakes may be minor temporary drawdown due to construction dewatering ([Subsection 2.4.12.2.5.1](#page-56-0))

There are no significant impoundments, reservoirs, estuaries, or oceans located in the region that needs to be considered when analyzing the hydrological impacts on the construction and operation of Fermi 3.

## 2.4.1.2.7 **Water-Control Structures**

Lake Erie is part of the larger network of the five Great Lakes. The outflows from two of the five Great Lakes (Lake Superior and Lake Ontario) are regulated by control structures. These outflows vary in accordance with their respective regulation plans. The outflows from

Lake Michigan, Lake Huron and Lake Erie are not regulated; rather, they are controlled exclusively by the hydraulic characteristics of their outlet rivers ([Reference 2.4-207\)](#page-78-0). No control structures that would affect Lake Erie are expected to be constructed during the construction or operation of Fermi 3.

## 2.4.1.2.8 **Surface-Water Use**

Lake Erie is the principal source of water to the operation of Fermi 3. The most important Lake Erie parameter with respect to water use is the lake water level. Fermi 3 has been designed to operate at full capacity assuming the lowest historical water level at the plant basin intake. Low water considerations, including historical low lake levels, are discussed in [Subsection 2.4.11](#page-30-0).

There are two categories of surface-water use: withdrawal (non-consumptive) and consumption:

- "Withdrawal" refers to water drawn from surface or groundwater sources that is eventually returned to the area from where it came.
- "Consumption" refers to water that is withdrawn but not returned to the region.

In the Great Lakes Basin, non-consumptive withdrawals comprise 95 percent of water use, and consumption comprises only 5 percent. The vast majority of withdrawals, 90 percent, are from lakes, while 5 percent is withdrawn from streams and 5 percent from groundwater sources. The Great Lakes Basin has nine main sectors of water consumption: Public Water Supply, Self-Supply Domestic, Self-Supply Irrigation, Self-Supply Livestock, Self-Supply Industrial, Self-Supply Thermoelectric (Fossil Fuel), Self-Supply Thermoelectric (Nuclear), Hydroelectric, and Self-Supply Other. The most recent data collected concerning these sectors has been by the Great Lakes Commission ([Reference 2.4-216\)](#page-79-3).

The main sectors of water consumption regarding the region of influence from the construction and operation of Fermi 3, according to the MDEQ, are the following: Power Generation (Nuclear), Power Generation (Fossil Fuel), Public Water Supply, Agricultural Irrigation, Self-Supply Industrial, and Golf Course Irrigation. Water withdrawal information from years 2000 through 2006 for Monroe County is shown on [Table 2.4-205](#page-92-0). [Table](#page-94-0) [2.4-206](#page-94-0) and [Table 2.4-207](#page-95-0) show the 2005 and 2006 Monroe County water-use reports for these sectors. [Table 2.4-208](#page-96-0) shows the 2006 Monroe County water capacity report for these sectors. [Table 2.4-206](#page-94-0) through [Table 2.4-208](#page-96-0) show that the current water use for Fermi 2 is relatively small, representing approximately 3 percent of the overall water used by the three power generation facilities located nearby.

The actual withdrawals and consumption of Great Lakes water have decreased by 48 percent in the past two decades. The decrease is largely a result of technological innovations, many of which improve the quality of water discharged back to the basin. However, the public data on withdrawals overstates certain consumptive uses. For example, hydroelectric utilities routinely are cited among the largest users of Great Lakes water. In fact, all but one percent of billions of gallons of water utilized to drive turbine generators are returned to the basin. Considering hydroelectric use, the volume of Great Lakes withdrawals decreases from 3.20 billion m<sup>3</sup> (845 billion gallons) per day to 0.17 billion m<sup>3</sup> (45 billion gallons) per day, a 95 percent difference [\(Reference 2.4-208](#page-78-1)).

The degree of impact for each sector is shown on [Figure 2.4-207](#page-143-0) which displays the total withdrawal rates for each sector for the years of 2000 through 2004. On [Figure 2.4-207](#page-143-0), the Power Generation sector includes power generation from all fuel types. Furthermore, the yearly water usage of withdrawals and consumption for Lake Erie are shown on [Table](#page-88-0) [2.4-201](#page-88-0) through [Table 2.4-204.](#page-91-0) By comparing the quantity of withdrawals within the vicinity of Fermi 3 [\(Table 2.4-205\)](#page-92-0) with the water supply of Lake Erie [\(Table 2.4-209\)](#page-97-0), it is seen that the current water usage by the Power Generation sector is relatively small. A conservative quantity of withdrawals for Monroe County is approximately 2.5 billion  $m^3$  (670 billion gallons) per year. The net water supply for Lake Erie in 2005 was approximately 177 billion  $m^3$  (46,661 billion gallons) for the year. Thus, withdrawals comprise approximately 1.4 percent of the total Lake Erie supply.

#### 2.4.1.2.9 **Groundwater Use**

Groundwater is not anticipated to be used at Fermi 3. [Subsection 2.4.12](#page-31-0) fully describes the regional and local groundwater.

#### **EF3 COL 2.0-13-A** 2.4.2 **Floods**

<span id="page-6-0"></span>[Subsection 2.4.2.1](#page-7-0) identifies the flood history at the Fermi 3 site. [Subsection 2.4.2.2](#page-9-0) describes the considerations used to determine the Probable Maximum Flood (PMF) for the site and shows that safety related facilities are located above the worst potential flood consideration.

[Subsection 2.4.2.3](#page-9-1) describes the model used to estimate the local PMP runoff water levels, describes the capacity of drainage facilities, and shows that safety related facilities are adequately protected.

## <span id="page-7-0"></span>2.4.2.1 **Flood History**

Due to its proximity to the site, Lake Erie is the primary surface-water body to potentially impact Fermi 3. The Fermi site is located outside the realm of significant impact due to the flooding of local streams and rivers. The PMF of Swan Creek is discussed in [Subsection 2.4.3.](#page-12-0) Following is a description of historical flooding of Lake Erie and other bodies of water surrounding Fermi 3.

## Lake Erie

Lake Erie is in the Lake Erie Drainage Basin, which is a sub-basin of the Great Lakes Drainage Basin. The Lake Erie Drainage Basin is shown on [Figure 2.4-203.](#page-139-0) The western basin of Lake Erie, along which Fermi 3 is located, is a very shallow basin with an average depth of 7.4 m (24 ft) and is partially restricted from the rest of Lake Erie by a chain of barrier beaches and islands.

Approximately 80 percent of Lake Erie's total inflow is from the Detroit River, 11 percent from precipitation, and the remaining 9 percent from tributaries flowing through watersheds in Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, and Ontario. Outflows from Lake Erie are not regulated; rather, outflows are controlled by the hydraulic characteristics of its outlet rivers.

The topography of the site is flat to gentle rolling plain and is located in the Swan Creek watershed, which is the smallest drainage basin within the region. The Swan Creek watershed has an elliptical-shaped basin, trending northwest-southeast, and generally distributes a small flow of water when compared to the capacity of Lake Erie.

The water levels of Lake Erie have been recorded from 1860 to the present by the Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory (GLERL). Maximum monthly extreme water levels, obtained from the Fermi Power Plant gauging station (ID 9063090), from 1967 to 2007, are shown on [Figure 2.4-212](#page-148-0). The data for these maximum monthly extreme water levels are shown on [Table 2.4-210.](#page-98-0) The highest recorded water level of these maximum monthly extremes is 175.71 m (576.48 ft) NAVD 88, occurring in April of 1998. [Table 2.4-210](#page-98-0) also lists the lowest recorded water level, of 171.9 m (563.9 ft) NAVD 88, which occurred in 1967 ([Reference 2.4-228,](#page-80-0) [Reference 2.4-234\)](#page-81-0).

<span id="page-8-0"></span>Recent flooding occurred within the Great Lakes Basin between 1985 and 1987. Precipitation over the entire Great Lakes Basin between November 1984 and April 1985 was 20 percent above average, and from May to December of 1985, precipitation was 27 percent above average. The 1985 spring runoff was 20 to 65 percent above normal, the highest in 20 years. The gauging station (ID 9063090) at the Fermi site on Lake Erie recorded a peak water level of 175.71 m (576.5 ft) IGLD 85 on March 31, 1985.

On December 2, 1985, a storm with winds gusting up to 100 km/hour (62.14 mph) severely affected shorelines with western exposures. The peak elevation at the Fermi site during this storm event was 174.4 m (572.1 ft) IGLD 85. A later storm event caused a peak elevation of Lake Erie at the Fermi site of 175.7 m (576.4 ft) IGLD 85, recorded on February 7, 1986. Furthermore, a peak elevation of 175.6 m (576.0 ft) IGLD 85 was recorded on January 19, 1987.

## Swan Creek

Swan Creek, located north of the Fermi site, typically experiences maximum flow rates in the spring and minimum flow rates in late summer. At its mouth (Section 16, T6S, R10E, Frenchtown Township, Monroe County) Swan Creek has a drainage area of approximately 275  $km<sup>2</sup>$ (106 mi<sup>2</sup>). The 10, 2, 1, 0.5, and 0.2 percent peak flow rates are estimated to be 70, 100, 120, 130, and 140  $\mathrm{m}^3$ /s (2500, 3700, 4100, 4600, and 5000 cfs), respectively ([Reference 2.4-232\)](#page-80-1)

# **Stony Creek**

Stony Creek is located about 5 km (3 mi) southwest of the Fermi site. It typically experiences maximum flow rates in the spring and minimum flow rates in late summer. The 10, 2, 1, 0.5, and 0.2 percent peak flows are estimated to be 50, 80, 100, 120, and 140  $\text{m}^3$ /s (1800, 2900, 3600, 4100, and 4900 cfs), respectively [\(Reference 2.4-233](#page-81-1)).

# River Raisin

The River Raisin, located about 9.6 km (6 mi) southwest of the Fermi site, typically experiences maximum annual flooding in April and May. The largest flood (records begin in 1938) of the River Raisin occurred on March 29, 1950, and the second largest occurred on April 6, 1947. The 10, 2, 1, 0.5, and 0.2 percent chance peak flows are estimated to be 280, 420, 480, 540, and 650  $\text{m}^3\text{/s}$  (10000, 15000, 17000, 19000, and 23000 cfs), respectively [\(Reference 2.4-241](#page-81-2))

Given the topography, regional location, and historical climatology of the Swan Creek Watershed, snowmelt factors will pose no significant impacts on flooding.

# <span id="page-9-0"></span>2.4.2.2 **Flood Design Considerations**

The design basis PMF is the most severe combination of critical meteorological and hydrologic conditions that are reasonably possible in the region being analyzed. The design basis PMF for Fermi 3 was determined by considering a number of flooding possibilities. Those applicable to the Fermi site include the local PMP runoff water levels ([Subsection 2.4.2.3\)](#page-9-1), the PMF of streams and rivers [\(Subsection 2.4.3\)](#page-12-0), probable maximum surge and seiche flooding ([Subsection 2.4.5](#page-19-0)), and flooding due to ice effects ([Subsection 2.4.7\)](#page-28-0). Each of these flooding scenarios was investigated in conjunction with the local streams and lakes per quidelines of ANSI/ANS-2.8-1992 ([Reference 2.4-226](#page-80-3)). The highest water level determined from these flooding possibilities is selected as the design basis PMF and becomes a site parameter, as noted in [DCD Table 2.0-1](#page-8-0), Envelope of ESBWR Standard Plant Site Parameters [\(Reference 2.4-225](#page-80-2)).

Flooding possibilities not considered in determination of the design basis PMF include flooding due to potential dam failures ([Subsection 2.4.4\)](#page-18-0) and flooding due to tsunami [\(Subsection 2.4.6](#page-27-0)). Landslides are also not likely to occur on the site (Subsection 2.5.5). Supporting information for these conclusions is described in the corresponding sections. Generally, these conclusions are based on the topography, geography, and location of the site within the Swan Creek watershed.

The most severe flooding combination possibility at the Fermi 3 site is caused by a potential high surge from Lake Erie. Details of the surge analysis are discussed in [Subsection 2.4.5](#page-19-0). Based on this analysis, safety-related structures and component elevations at the Fermi 3 site are established at elevation 179.6 m (589.3 ft) NAVD 88.

# <span id="page-9-1"></span>2.4.2.3 **Effects of Local Intense Precipitation**

The existing site area uses three drainage outlets, two ponds (Pond 1 and Stagnant Pond), and a drainage outfall pipe to handle storm discharge ([Figure 2.4-214](#page-150-0)). Storm water runoff from the Fermi 3 final grade will possibly flow toward two lagoons (North Lagoon and South Lagoon) and also into onsite drop inlets within the local drainage system discharging to an outfall pipe. The outfall pipe discharges to an overflow canal which then enters the North Lagoon. The North Lagoon will discharge to Swan Creek which feeds Lake Erie, and the South Lagoon will discharge directly to Lake Erie. [Figure 2.4-214](#page-150-0) and [Figure 2.4-215](#page-151-0) show the distribution of flows for typical storm events on the existing site area and the final grade area, respectively. [Figure 2.4-217](#page-153-0) shows the distribution of flows assuming that all local underground storm drains and culverts are completely clogged. The drainage areas for storm water conveyance facilities around the Fermi 3 site are less than 2.6  $km^2$  (1)  $mi<sup>2</sup>$ ).

PMP is defined as the greatest depth of precipitation for a given duration that is physically possible over a given size storm area at a particular geographical location at a certain time of the year, as defined by Hydro-Meteorological Report (HMR) No. 55A. The PMP values for the 275  $km^2$  (106 mi<sup>2</sup>) Swan Creek watershed were developed using HMR No. 51 and No. 52, which were published by NOAA [\(Reference 2.4-227](#page-80-4)). These regional PMP values are presented in [Subsection 2.4.3.](#page-12-0) HMR No. 52 lists the multiplying factors to convert the 26 km<sup>2</sup> (10 mi<sup>2</sup>) area PMP values to relative 2.6 km<sup>2</sup> (1 mi<sup>2</sup>) PMP values. The derived PMP depths and durations are shown in [Table 2.4-211.](#page-100-0) The corresponding PMP intensity duration curve is shown in [Figure 2.4-213.](#page-149-0)

The specific flow-rate for the Fermi 3 site was calculated using the PMP intensity duration curve with the rational method. The rational method is used to determine peak runoff rates from specified areas. The rational method is given by Equation 1:

$$
Q = k * C * l * A
$$
 [Eq. 1]

where:

 $Q =$  runoff in cfs  $k = constant = 1$  for English units C = unitless coefficient of runoff  $I =$  intensity in inches/hour A = drainage area in acres

Rainfall duration is assumed to be equal or greater than the time of concentration for each site drainage area. The corresponding intensity is determined using [Figure 2.4-213](#page-149-0). The coefficient of runoff, C, is assumed to equal 1.0 in order to conservatively estimate runoff and account for saturated antecedent conditions.

Storm runoff results for typical design storms, such as the 10-, 25-, 50-, and 100-year storms, are shown in [Table 2.4-212](#page-101-0) and [Table 2.4-213](#page-102-0) for the existing sub-basin drainage area and the final grade area, respectively. [Table 2.4-214](#page-103-0) compares the runoff of the existing site drainage area and the final grade site area for each design storm event. The additional runoff from the typical storm events will have a minimal impact on the site due to the size and slope of the outfall pipe, the final grade design storm flow distribution, and local site topography.

The NRCS Dimensionless Unit Hydrograph Method was also used to calculate the one-hour unit hydrograph and the composite flood hydrograph for the 2.6 km<sup>2</sup> (1 mi<sup>2</sup>) drainage area of the Fermi 3 site. This hydrograph is shown on [Figure 2.4-216](#page-152-0).

Manning's Equation was used to estimate a boundary channel depth that will be required to receive the local runoff from the PMP storm ([Reference 2.4-227,](#page-80-4) [Reference 2.4-229](#page-80-6) through [Reference 2.4-231](#page-80-5)). Manning's Equation is given by Equation 2, as follows:

$$
Q = (k * A * R^{2/3} * s^{1/2}) / n
$$
 [Eq. 2]

where:

 $Q =$  discharge in cfs  $k = constant$  equal to 1.49 for English units  $r =$  hydraulic radius =  $A/P_w$ A = cross sectional flow area in square ft  $P_w$  = wetted perimeter in ft

- s = slope of hydraulic grade line in ft/ft
- n = Manning's roughness coefficient for open channel flow

The channel characteristics used for the Manning's Equation were a bottom width of 23 m (75 ft), vertical sides, a slope of 0.006, and a roughness coefficient of 0.013.

Development of the local PMP runoff water level used a PMP depth at five minutes duration, corresponding to an intensity of 177 cm/hr (69.6 inches/hr) ([Figure 2.4-213\)](#page-149-0). The most conservative method of calculation evaluates the potential impact on the safety related area of 7.32 hectares (18.09 acres), which is the final grade area without considering discharge section N3 [\(Table 2.4-213](#page-102-0)). The area used in the rational method was the combination of the safety related area and drainage area N3 because this total area may potentially impact the safety related structures from backwater during the local PMP storm.

This total area is 17.83 hectares (44.05 acres). Due to the minimal 0.6 percent slope within the 10.51 hectare (25.96 acre) N3 area, the storm-runoff from the local PMP storm could create a backwater scenario due to the storm runoff leaving the 8 percent slope of the safety related area at a higher velocity than the 0.6 percent slope of the N3 drainage area. Using the rational method, the corresponding runoff for this area is 86.8  $\mathrm{m}^3$ /s (3,066 cfs). For this discharge, Manning's equation predicts a runoff depth of 0.78 m (2.55 ft), using the channel characteristics described above. This depth is the local PMP runoff water level.

Given that the existing plant grade is at elevation 177.3 m (581.8 ft) NAVD 88, the most conservative water level due to PMP runoff at the Fermi 3 site is approximately 178.1 m (584.4 ft) NAVD 88. The nominal Fermi 3 plant grade of safety related structures is 179.6 m (589.3 ft) NAVD 88. Therefore, the Fermi 3 nominal plant grade elevation is approximately 1.5 m (4.9 ft) above the local PMP runoff flood level. Accordingly, no safety related structures will flood due to PMP runoff.

## **EF3 COL 2.0-14-A** 2.4.3 **Probable Maximum Flood on Streams and Rivers**

<span id="page-12-0"></span>This section determines the PMF of the Swan Creek Watershed, which is located hydrologically above Fermi 3. The guidance of ANSI/ANS-2.8-1992, which is the latest available standard, was used in determining the PMF ([Reference 2.4-235\)](#page-81-3).

The Swan Creek Watershed is shown on [Figure 2.4-208](#page-144-0) ([Reference 2.4-260\)](#page-83-0). It has a drainage area of approximately 275  $km^2$ (106 mi<sup>2</sup>). Swan Creek, the main outlet for this watershed and a minor tributary of the western basin of Lake Erie, is located approximately 1.6 km (1 mi) northeast of Fermi 3. Swan Creek is currently ungauged. Consequently, there is no recorded flow data pertaining to historical storm events. However, historical flow rates have been estimated by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ). The lowest 95 percent and 50 percent exceedance, the harmonic mean, and the 90-day once in 10-year flow (90Q10) for Swan Creek are estimated to be 0, 0.08, 0.13, and 0.03  $\mathrm{m}^{3}/\mathrm{s}$  (0, 2.8, 4.6, and 0.9 cfs), respectively. Monthly 50 percent and 95 percent exceedance flows and monthly mean flows are shown on [Table 2.4-215.](#page-104-0)

The MDEQ has estimated Swan Creek's flow rates during typical storm events using the Drainage-Area Ratio (DAR) method on Plum Brook gauge 04163500, which is a 61.6 km<sup>2</sup> (23.8 mi<sup>2</sup>) watershed near Utica, MI. Data recorded from 1954 through 1966 was used for these estimates. The Swan Creek 10 percent, 2 percent, 1 percent, 0.5 percent, and 0.2 percent peak flow rates are estimated to be 70, 100, 120, 130, and 140  $\rm m^3/s$  (2500, 3700, 4100, 4600, and 5000 cfs), respectively ([Reference 2.4-244\)](#page-82-0).

Other streams and rivers near the Fermi site include Stony Creek, about 5 km (3 mi) southwest, the River Raisin about 9.6 km (6 mi) southwest, and the Huron River about 9.25 km (5.75 mi) north. These water bodies are far enough away from the site that even the most severe flooding would not cause a potential hazard to Fermi 3.

On site flooding due to runoff is covered in [Subsection 2.4.2.](#page-6-0) Seismic information is discussed in detail in Subsection 2.5.1. Seismic events are not expected to have an impact on flooding at the site.

## 2.4.3.1 **Probable Maximum Precipitation**

The PMF of Swan Creek was determined based on PMP estimates. The PMP was developed according to the procedures outlined in Hydrometeorological Reports (HMR) No. 51, No. 52, and No. 53 ([Reference 2.4-236\)](#page-81-4). The PMP values were estimated based on the size and shape of the Swan Creek Watershed drainage area, in accordance with the procedures outlined in HMR No. 52.

HMR No. 51 data used to generate depth-area-duration curves consisted of historical precipitation maps based on 6 to 72-hour rainfall storms for various watershed areas located east of the 105<sup>th</sup> meridian. The evaluated watershed areas ranged from 26 to 26,000  $km<sup>2</sup>$  (10 to 10,000 mi<sup>2</sup>). The Swan Creek Watershed depth-area-duration curves from 6 to 72-hour rainfall storms were produced by interpolating this data.

As indicated in ANSI/ANS-2.8-1992, an antecedent storm condition was assumed. Furthermore, the isohyetal pattern was oriented over the watershed to obtain the maximum precipitation volume over the entire drainage area. The evaluation yielded a PMP of 79.8 cm (31.4 inches) for the watershed. [Table 2.4-216](#page-105-0) presents the PMP values for the Swan Creek Watershed.

Guidance from ANSI/ANS-2.8-1992 was followed in determining the time distribution of the PMP. The incremental PMP values were grouped in a critical time sequence that represented the most significant potential rainfall impact within the watershed. This sequence was chosen based

on historical rainfall events and the land characteristics of the watershed. During the first 24 to 30 hours of rainfall, the infiltration and storage capacity factors have a greater effect on rainfall water-flow than after 30 hours, so sequencing the maximum 24 hour period before 30 hours is not conservative. Moreover, sequencing the maximum 24 hour period at the end of the 72-hour rainstorm is not conservative due to the time of concentration of the watershed. The most conservative sequence is shown on [Table 2.4-217.](#page-106-0) This sequence includes the maximum rainfall between 30 to 54 hours of the 72-hour storm.

Snowmelts and ice effects were not evaluated in the PMP analysis. Minimal impacts due to snowmelts and ice effects are expected due to the relatively flat topography of the area, seasonal Lake Erie water level data, and the historical climatology of the region, mainly pertaining to wind currents and temperature. The local and regional impacts of ice effects are further discussed in [Subsection 2.4.7](#page-28-0).

## 2.4.3.2 **Precipitation Losses**

Estimates of precipitation losses for the Swan Creek Watershed are required to determine the direct runoff hydrograph. Surface soils in the Swan Creek drainage area are largely comprised of lacustrine clays, which have a low infiltration capacity. Winter initial losses typically vary from 0 to 0.5 cm (0 to 0.2 inches), and winter infiltration losses typically vary from 0.03 to 0.5 cm/hr (0.01 to 0.2 inches/hr). Summer initial losses typically vary from 1.3 to 3.1 cm (0.5 to 1.2 inches), and minimum summer infiltration losses are approximately 0.1 cm/hr (0.05 inches/hr).

In determining the PMF, the initial loss was calculated to be 0.97 cm (0.38 inches). This was derived from a storage capacity of 4.75 cm (1.87 inches). The average infiltration rate was calculated to be 0.08 cm/hr (0.03 inches/hr) for the entire 72-hour probable maximum storm. These precipitation losses for the 72-hour period specify the general soil behavior of lacustrine clays within the region during wet antecedent conditions, when the moisture capacity of the topsoil is essentially saturated.

# 2.4.3.3 **Runoff and Stream Course Models**

ANSI/ANS-2.8-1992 lists the three pertinent alternative combinations to be evaluated in determining the PMF level.

#### Alternative I

- 1. One-half PMF or 500-year flood, whichever is less.
- 2. Surge and seiche from the worst regional hurricane or windstorm with wind wave activity.
- 3. 100-year or maximum controlled level of waterbody, whichever is less.

#### **Alternative II**

- 1. PMF.
- 2. 25-year surge and seiche with wind wave activity.
- 3. 100-year or maximum controlled level of waterbody, whichever is less.

#### **Alternative III**

- 1. 25-year flood.
- 2. Probable maximum surge and seiche with wind wave activity.
- 3. 100-year or maximum controlled level of waterbody, whichever is less.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Dimensionless Unit Hydrograph method ([Reference 2.4-238\)](#page-81-7) was used to generate the PMF flow rate for the Swan Creek Watershed. This method is well-documented and considered a Best Management Practice (BMP) in design ([Reference 2.4-239](#page-81-6)). In hydrograph analysis, the storm hyetograph (rainfall input function) is converted to the direct runoff hydrograph (output) using a unit hydrograph (transfer function). The land use of the area is estimated as follows: 30 percent small grain, 30 percent forage and pasture, 25 percent row crops, and 15 percent wooded land and buildings. These values were implemented into the unit hydrograph model. The time of concentration  $(T<sub>C</sub>)$  is the time of travel from the most remote (timewise) point hydraulically in the watershed to the watershed outlet or other design point ([Reference 2.4-237](#page-81-5)). In this analysis,  $T_C$  was estimated using the Kirpich equation ([Reference 2.4-243](#page-82-1)). The Kirpich equation is given by Equation 3, as follows:

$$
T_{\rm C} = 5.735 \times 10^{0.77} \times Y^{-0.385}
$$
 [Eq. 3]

<span id="page-16-0"></span>where:

 $T_{\text{C}}$  = Time of concentration in minutes  $L =$  Length in mi  $Y =$  Slope in ft per ft

The ordinates of the NRCS dimensionless unit hydrograph are given on [Table 2.4-218](#page-107-0). Linear interpretation of these ordinates was used to develop the unit hydrograph for the Swan Creek Watershed that represents the distribution of 72-hour PMP. The unit hydrograph developed for the Swan Creek Watershed is the hydrograph of direct runoff that results from one inch of excess rainfall generated uniformly over the watershed at a constant rate every six hours.

[Subsection 2.4.3.4](#page-17-0) gives the PMF flow, generated by the NRCS unit hydrograph method, which is used in the analysis of Alternative II. The Lake Erie elevation calculated for Alternative II was the 100-year lake level of 175.3 m (575.1 ft) NAVD 88 combined with the 25-year surge and seiche with wind wave activity, predicted to be 0.9 m (3.2 ft) above the lake level ([Table 2.4-222\)](#page-111-0) by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. This 25-year surge is a conservative estimate, corresponding to the 33-year surge shown on [Table 2.4-222](#page-111-0). The calculated Lake Erie elevation with surge for Alternative II is therefore 176.2 m (578.3 ft) NAVD 88. [Subsection 2.4.5](#page-19-0) describes the methods used to determine the 100-year lake level. This PMF evaluation and subsequent water level determination fulfills Alternative II.

Alternative I is fulfilled by evaluation of the 500-year flood for Swan Creek, which is estimated by the MDEQ to be 140  $\mathrm{m}^3$ /s (5,000 cfs) ([Subsection 2.4.3](#page-12-0)). The Lake Erie elevation calculated for Alternative I was the 100-year lake level of 175.3 m (575.1 ft) NAVD 88 combined with the surge and seiche from the worst regional windstorm with wind wave activity, predicted to be 1.2 m (4 ft) above the lake level [\(Table 2.4-222](#page-111-0)) by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The calculated Lake Erie elevation with surge for Alternative I is therefore 177.5 m (579.1 ft) NAVD 88.

Alternative III is fulfilled by analysis of the probable maximum surge and seiche with wind wave activity. [Subsection 2.4.5](#page-19-0) covers Probable Maximum Surge and Seiche Flooding in depth. The resulting maximum still-water elevation from [Subsection 2.4.5](#page-19-0) is 178.4 m (585.4 ft) NAVD 88. This is the Lake Erie water elevation calculated for Alternative III. The flow used under this scenario was the 25-year flood, estimated to be 90  $\text{m}^3$ /s (3,100 cfs) from MDEQ predictions [\(Subsection 2.4.3](#page-12-0)).

#### <span id="page-17-0"></span>2.4.3.4 **Probable Maximum Flood Flow**

Q<sub>PMF</sub> represents the Swan Creek Watershed discharge during the PMF calculated from a 72-hour PMP rainfall event. The 6-hour unit hydrograph and composite flood hydrograph of the Swan Creek Watershed are shown in [Figure 2.4-219](#page-155-0).  $Q_{PMF}$  is approximately 3,200 m<sup>3</sup>/s (113,200 cfs). This is the estimated flow of Swan Creek as it enters Lake Erie.

There are no dams existing within the Swan Creek Watershed that would produce measurable effects on Lake Erie water levels. [Subsection 2.4.4](#page-18-0) discusses potential dam failures.

## <span id="page-17-1"></span>2.4.3.5 **Water Level Determination**

The water surface profiles for all three alternatives were determined by using the HEC-RAS Version 4.0 Beta 2008 software ([Reference 2.4-242\)](#page-81-8). A Digital Terrain Model (DTM) was developed using U.S. Quad Map data loaded in the ArcGIS 9 ArcMap Version 9.2 software. After locating the Swan Creek Watershed within the ArcGIS software, the HEC-GeoRAS Version 4 software ([Reference 2.4-241\)](#page-81-2) was used to survey the features in the watershed model in order to represent the most conservative PMP rainfall analysis and generate a water surface profile. [Figure 2.4-218](#page-154-0) shows the cross sections used within the Swan Creek Watershed during this analysis. The limits set on the cross sections varied from station to station, although they all covered the most secure features of the watershed. The results produced were also made more conservative by restricting the boundaries of the cross sections drawn normal across the profile of Swan Creek.

[Table 2.4-219](#page-108-0) shows the resulting water levels at the various stations along Swan Creek for the PMF analysis (Alternative II). The maximum flood elevation at the Fermi 3 site, determined under this scenario, is 176.52 m (579.15 ft) NAVD 88. This flood elevation is 3.1 m (10.2 ft) below the Fermi 3 finished grade elevation for sately related structures of 179.6 m (589.3 ft) NAVD 88. Therefore, safety related structures are not susceptible to flooding from a PMF storm event. The Swan Creek water surface profile for this scenario is shown on [Figure 2.4-220](#page-156-0). Water surface profiles shown along the two cross sections most critical to the Fermi 3 site are shown on [Figure 2.4-221](#page-157-0) and [Figure 2.4-222.](#page-158-0)

[Table 2.4-220](#page-109-0) shows the resulting water levels at the various stations along Swan Creek for the 500-year flood analysis (Alternative I). The maximum flood elevation at the Fermi 3 site, determined under this scenario, is 176.59 m (579.39 ft) NAVD 88. This flood elevation is 3.0 m (9.9 ft) below the Fermi 3 finished grade elevation of 179.6 m (589.3 ft) NAVD 88. Therefore, safety related structures are not susceptible to flooding from a 500-year storm event. The Swan Creek water surface profile for this scenario is shown on [Figure 2.4-223](#page-159-0). Water surface profiles shown along the two cross sections most critical to the Fermi 3 site are shown on [Figure 2.4-224](#page-160-0) and [Figure 2.4-225](#page-161-0).

[Table 2.4-221](#page-110-0) shows the resulting water levels at the various stations along Swan Creek for the Probable Maximum Surge and Seiche analysis (Alternative III). The maximum Swan Creek flood elevation at the Fermi 3 site, determined under this scenario, is 178.4 m (585.4 ft) NAVD 88. This flood elevation is 1.2 m (3.9 ft) below the Fermi 3 finished grade. Therefore, safety related structures are not susceptible to flooding from a Probable Maximum Surge and Seiche Flooding event. The Swan Creek water surface profile for this scenario is shown on [Figure 2.4-226.](#page-162-0) Water surface profiles shown along the two cross sections most critical to the Fermi 3 site are shown on [Figure 2.4-227](#page-163-0) and [Figure 2.4-228.](#page-164-0)

#### 2.4.3.6 **Coincident Wind Wave Activity**

[Subsection 2.4.5](#page-19-0) analyzes the wave run-up of Lake Erie induced by Probable Maximum Windstorm (PMWS) winds. Wave run-up and potential overtopping rates were calculated with the Automated Coastal Engineering System (ACES) model. Wave run-up on the slope to the Fermi 3 finished grade was analyzed, and it was determined that waves will break on the berm that is between the onshore flat area and the Fermi 3 finished grade. Therefore, waves will not overtop the slope and will not directly impact Fermi 3. See [Subsection 2.4.5](#page-19-0) for details.

#### **EF3 COL 2.0-15-A** 2.4.4 **Potential Dam Failures**

<span id="page-18-0"></span>The water supply for Fermi 3 is from Lake Erie. The outflow from Lake Erie is not regulated. The outflow from Lake Erie is controlled exclusively by the hydraulic characteristics of the outlet rivers ([Reference 2.4-247](#page-82-2)). Thus, there are no dam failures that could impact the water supply for Fermi 3.

Fermi 3 is located within the Swan Creek watershed. The Swan Creek watershed contains no dams upstream or downstream within the vicinity of Fermi 3. Thus, there are no dam failures that could result in flooding to the Fermi 3 site. Additionally, there are no water control structures erected on the Fermi site whose failure would cause potential flooding.

Therefore, there are no potential dam failures that could affect Fermi 3 safety-related structures or components.

#### **EF3 COL 2.0-16-A** 2.4.5 **Probable Maximum Surge and Seiche Flooding**

<span id="page-19-0"></span>This section discusses the development of the hydrometeorological design basis to ensure that any potential hazard to the safety-related facilities due to the effects of probable maximum surge and seiche are considered in the plant design. The analyses discussed in this section are based on ANSI/ANS-2.8-1992 ([Reference 2.4-248](#page-82-3)). ANSI/ANS-2.8-1992, Section 9.2.3, describes the combined events criteria for an enclosed body of water, which is appropriate for analyzing postulated flooding at the Fermi 3 power reactor site due to wind and wave conditions in Lake Erie. Specifically, ANSI/ANS-2.8-1992, Section 9.2.3.1, states that the following combination of flood causing events provides an adequate design base for shore locations.

- 1. Probable maximum surge and seiche with wind-wave activity.
- 2. 100-year or maximum controlled level in water body, whichever is less.

These event combinations are addressed in the following discussion.

#### 2.4.5.1 **Probable Maximum Winds and Associated Meteorological Parameters**

According to Section 7.2.2.1 of ANSI/ANS-2.8-1992, for the area of the Great Lakes in the vicinity of the site, the probable maximum surge and seiche is calculated from the PMWS ([Reference 2.4-248\)](#page-82-3). Section 7.2.2.3.1 of ANSI/ANS-2.8-1992 further indicates that parameters of the PMWS should be determined by a meteorological study, and in lieu of a study, the following may be used:

- 1. Set maximum over-water wind speed at  $\sim$  160 km/hr (100 mph).
- 2. Set lowest pressure within the PMWS to  $\sim$ 950 mbar.
- 3. Apply a most critical, constant translational speed during the life of the PMWS. This may require several trials.
- 4. Assume that wind speeds over water vary diurnally from 1.3 (day) to 1.6 (night) times the overland speed (This assumption is based on work by Lemire from ANSI/ANS-2.8-1992 with some modifications).
- 5. Assume that winds blow 10 degrees across the isobars over the water body. Decreased friction over the water will cause the wind to approach the isobars, but gradient flow will not be reached because of the imbalance of forces.

#### 2.4.5.2 **Surge and Seiche**

## 2.4.5.2.1 **Surge & Seiche History**

#### 2.4.5.2.1.1 **Maximum Historical Lake Levels**

Historical Lake Erie water levels are discussed in [Subsection 2.4.2.1](#page-7-0). The discussion in [Subsection 2.4.2.1](#page-7-0) includes flooding events due to wind storms on Lake Erie.

## 2.4.5.2.2 **Surge and Seiche Water Levels in Lake Erie**

In order to determine the maximum postulated still-water level at the site, the predicted storm surge is combined with the Lake Erie 100-year lake water level. The sections that follow discuss the determination of the 100-year water level, the storm surge, and the subsequent postulated maximum still-water level.

## <span id="page-20-0"></span>2.4.5.2.2.1 **Lake Erie 100-Year Water Level**

In order to establish the 100-year lake level for Lake Erie, data was incorporated in a statistical frequency analysis using the Log Pearson Type 3 distribution. Historical lake level data was obtained for 14 water level gauging stations that exist along the shore of the lake [\(Figure](#page-165-0) [2.4-229](#page-165-0)). Eight gauging stations are maintained by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) of the U.S. Department of Commerce; the other six gauging stations are maintained by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) in Canada.

Historical lake level data consists of available digital records. Records for the U.S. gauges were obtained from the NOAA Tides and Currents Website [\(Reference 2.4-255](#page-83-1)). Records from the Canadian gauges were obtained from the Tide and Water Level Inventory of the Integrated Science Data Management branch of the DFO [\(Reference 2.4-254](#page-83-2)). Data

for the majority of U.S. gauges are readily available for the period from January 1, 1970 to present. Data for the Canadian gauges are available for the period from June 1, 1966 to present. The period of record for one of the Canadian gauges (Port Stanley, Ontario – 12400) extends back to June 1, 1926 with a gap in the record between December 31, 1940 to November 1, 1961. For this analysis, data from 1970 through 2007 was used to provide a homogenous data set.

The recorded data includes the effects of surges and seiches that may have occurred in the lake. To eliminate this effect, the historical lake levels have been determined by calculating a weighted average of the hourly lake levels of the individual gauges. The weight is based on the area of influence of the individual gauges.

Based on the above data, the 100-year lake level was calculated to be 1.72 m (5.64 ft) above the low water level. The chart datum is 173.5 m (569.2 ft) IGLD 85 or 173.6 m (569.5 ft) NAVD 88. The chart datum is based on low water lake levels; therefore, the depths have to be adjusted to account for the 100- year level in the lake. Therefore, the 100-year lake level is 175.2 m (574.8 ft) IGLD 85, corresponding to 175.3 m (575.1 ft) NAVD 88.

## 2.4.5.2.2.2 **Surge**

ANSI/ANS-2.8-1992 recommends using the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Shore Protection Manual ([Reference 2.4-249\)](#page-82-4) for analyzing wave action. [Reference 2.4-249,](#page-82-4) however, has been superseded by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Coastal Engineering Manual (CEM) ([Reference 2.4-250\)](#page-82-5). Thus, for the purpose of this analysis, the CEM was used.

Wave action includes deep and shallow water wave generation. The CEM recommends that, except for areas with very simple bathymetry, a numerical model should be used for nearshore wave studies. For the Fermi site, the numerical methods used are contained in computer code STWAVE. STWAVE is a steady-state finite-difference model. It includes the simulation of depth-induced wave refraction and shoaling, diffraction, wind-wave growth and wave-wave interaction and whitecapping; these factors redistribute and dissipate energy in a growing wave field. ([Reference 2.4-251\)](#page-82-6)

For the analyses, a constant 160 km/hour (100 mph) wind-speed is used for the purpose of wind-wave generation in STWAVE. This is based on the guidelines for the Great Lakes Region which allows use of a maximum over-water wind speed of 160 km/hr (100 mph) in lieu of a more detailed meteorological study [\(Reference 2.4-248](#page-82-3)). Time variations in wind speed and direction were not considered because STWAVE is a steady state model.

Wave heights and frequency are dependent on water depth. Bathymetric data was used to define the water depths in the model. Bathymetric soundings were downloaded from the Electronic Navigational Charts (ENC) Direct website of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) [\(Reference 2.4-251\)](#page-82-6). The data was downloaded in digital form using the ESRI Arc/Info Point Coverage format in the Lambert Conformal NAD83 projection. The data downloaded corresponded to the entire Lake Erie. Data was then converted to an ESRI point-shapefile format.

The bathymetric soundings were complemented with bathymetric contours downloaded from the Great Lakes Information Network (GLIN) ([Reference 2.4-253\)](#page-83-3). These were downloaded in digital form using the ESRI point-shapefile format in the World Geodetic Coordinate System (WGS 84). The originator of the data is the Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory and NOAA's National Geophysical Data Center (NGDC). The shapefile was projected to the Lambert Conformal NAD83 projection to match the soundings coordinate system. Contours with depths equal to zero were selected to define the shore of the lake and the islands.

For wind set-up, the Bretschneider methods ([Reference 2.4-257](#page-83-4)) were used to calculate wind stress. Wind stress was then used for wind set-up and storm surge. STWAVE was used to simulate wave generation and ultimately the wave height and period to be used in the ACES modeling software ([Reference 2.4-256](#page-83-5)). The ACES model is an integrated collection of coastal engineering design and analysis software. It provides a comprehensive environment for applying a broad spectrum of coastal engineering technologies. These technologies include functional areas such as wave prediction, wave theory, wave transformation, structural processes, wave run-up, littoral processes, inlet processes and harbor design. The Linear Wave Theory application provides a simple estimate for wave shoaling and refraction using Snell's law with wave properties predicted by linear wave theory. The wave run-up application

estimates wave run-up and overtopping on rough and smooth slope structures that are assumed to be impermeable.

Based on this methodology, the storm surge is calculated to be 3.14 m (10.3 ft). As discussed in [Subsection 2.4.5.2.2.1](#page-20-0), the 100-year lake level is 175.2 m (574.8 ft) IGLD 85, corresponding to 175.3 m (575.1 ft) NAVD 88. The calculated still-water level for the storm surge in addition to the 100-year level is 178.4 m (585.4 ft) NAVD 88, corresponding to 178.8 m (586.6 ft) plant grade datum. The plant grade elevation for the safety-related structures of Fermi 3 is 180.0 m (590.5 ft) plant grade datum. Thus, the still-water elevation is 1.3 m (3.9 ft) below plant grade. ESBWR [DCD Table 2.0-1](#page-8-0) specifies that the maximum flood level is at least 0.3 m (1 ft) below plant grade. Therefore, the Fermi 3 design satisfies the enveloping site parameter in the DCD.

## 2.4.5.2.2.3 **Seiche**

Seiches are standing waves of relatively long periods that occur in lakes and other water bodies. Lake Erie is subject to occasional seiches of irregular amount and duration, which sometimes result from a sudden change, or a series of intermittent periodic changes, in atmospheric pressure or wind velocity. The maximum deviations from mean lake levels at Toledo were reported in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Shore Protection Manual ([Reference 2.4-249](#page-82-4)). The maximum recorded rise was 1.9 m (6.3 ft) and the maximum recorded fall was 2.7 m (8.9 ft) for the period from 1941 to 1981. The value of the rise is significantly less than the storm surge calculated using the Bretschneider methods, noted above.

Seiche events can also result in minimum lake water levels at the site. The Ultimate Heat Sink (UHS) for Fermi 3 is described in Subsection 9.2.5. The Isolation Condenser/Passive Containment Cooling System (IC/PCCS) pools contain a separate water supply in place during Fermi 3 operation for safety-related cooling in the event that use of the UHS is required. Lake Erie is not used for safety-related water withdrawal for Fermi 3. Therefore, a seiche event will not affect a safety-related water supply for Fermi 3.

## 2.4.5.3 **Wave Action**

Wave run-up is evaluated to determine the wind-induced wave run-up under PMWS winds. Wave run-up and potential overtopping rates were calculated using the ACES model ([Reference 2.4-256\)](#page-83-5). Results of the

STWAVE model were used to define wave characteristics (wave height and period) necessary as inputs to the ACES model. Other required inputs are characteristics of the shoreline protection, including slopes and material used (e.g., rip-rap, rubble, tetrapods). Calculations were made assuming irregular waves. In calculating overtopping rates, the relative heights of the embankment to the still-water level were important. For these calculations, it was assumed the still-water level was a combination of the 100-year water level plus increases in water level due to surge and seiche.

## 2.4.5.3.1 **Wave Run-Up Analysis Approach**

The wave run-up models were used to calculate the run-up that occurs when waves encounter a shoreline or embankment. Overtopping rates were also calculated in this determination. The required inputs include wave type, breaking criteria, wave height, wave period, structure slope, structure height, slope type, and roughness coefficient. The cases modeled were for a flooded berm. Roughness coefficients consistent with rip-rap were used for the cases with rough surfaces.

Wave transmission and wave run-up modules in the ACES model were derived from physical model studies originally conducted for specific structures and wave climates [\(Reference 2.4-256](#page-83-5)). General assumptions for the wave run-up on an impermeable embankment are:

- Waves are monochromatic, normally incident to the structure, and unbroken in the vicinity of the structure toe.
- Waves are specified at the structure location.
- All structure types are considered to be impermeable.
- For sloped structures the crest of the structure must be above the still-water level.
- For vertical and composite structures, partial and complete submersion for the structure is considered.
- Run-up estimates on sloped structures require the assumption of infinite structure height and a simple plane slope.
- The expressions for the transmission by overtopping use the actual finite structure height.

## 2.4.5.3.2 **Wave Run-Up Results**

#### 2.4.5.3.2.1 **Description of Nearshore and Shallow Onshore Areas**

Profiles have been developed to describe the nearshore and shallow onshore areas. For purposes of the wave transmission and wave run-up analysis the following areas were defined. Slopes are reported as Horizontal: Vertical (H: V).

- Nearshore the area from 1.0 m (3.3 ft) depth Mean Low Water (MLW) to 0 m (0 ft) depth MLW. This area is between the point used to describe the waves at the shore (from STWAVE model) to the base of the seawall. The area is about 660 m (2,160 ft) to 1,000 m (3,280 ft) wide with a slope of about 200 H: 1 V.
- Seawall the area of onshore protection from an elevation of 174 m (571 ft) to 178 m (583 ft) plant grade datum, with a slope of 3H: 1V to 2H: 1V.
- Onshore the area immediately behind the seawall. This area is approximately flat with a width of about 300 m (1,000 ft) at elevation 178 m (583 ft) plant grade datum.
- Berm area between the onshore flat area, at elevation 178 m (583 ft) plant grade datum, and the project site, at elevation 180.0 m (590.5 ft) plant grade datum or 179.6 m (589.3 ft) NAVD 88. This berm area has a slope of about 12.5 H: 1V with smooth slopes.

# 2.4.5.3.2.2 **Results from the STWAVE Model**

Wave characteristics were obtained from the STWAVE model. Several points that were closest to shore were examined to determine the highest waves generated. The point used to represent the waves reaching the shore was located about 61.0 m (200 ft) from shore at a depth of 1.0 m (3.3 ft) MLW. The result of the modeling showed that the highest waves generated (H<sub>mo</sub>) were 3.77 m (12.37 ft) high with a peak spectral period (Tp) of 11.1 seconds.

As waves move across the nearshore area they will shoal resulting in slightly higher waves. At the end of this area the wave height would be 3.92 m (12.86 ft). This wave height was determined using the wave transmission module of the ACES model. The ACES model also showed that soon after reaching the seawall the wave would break.

It is possible that the wave period would be reduced; however, according to the Coastal Engineering Manual ([Reference 2.4-250\)](#page-82-5) there are no widely accepted theoretical methods for determining changes in wave period. Therefore, for this analysis the wave period was assumed to remain unchanged at 11.1 seconds.

## 2.4.5.3.2.3 **Breaking Wave Characteristics**

Maximum wave heights are constrained by the relative depth (ratio of wave height to water depth) and by wave steepness (ratio of wave height to wave length). Breaking wave heights were calculated according to procedures in [Reference 2.4-250](#page-82-5). Specifically equation II-4-11, Equation 4, was used to calculate the zero-moment wave height  $(H_{\text{mo},b})$  at the time of breaking, using the modified 1951 Miche criterion, which is the same equation used by the STWAVE model. This equation represents both depth and steepness-induced wave breaking. Although not exactly equivalent in definition, the zero-moment wave height is generally considered to be equivalent to the significant wave height. The equation used is:

$$
H_{\text{mo},b} = 0.1 \text{ L } \tanh (kd)
$$
 [Eq. 4]

where:

 $k =$  wave number defined as  $2\pi/L$ *d* = water depth

As waves move onshore, the wavelength decreases; thus, the first step is to calculate the appropriate wave length according to Equation 5:

$$
L = g/2\pi * T^2 \tanh(2\pi d/L)
$$
 [Eq. 5]

Because L is on both sides of the equation, this equation must be solved through an iterative process.

Wavelengths associated with various points in the lake are shown in [Table 2.4-223.](#page-112-0) Breaking wave heights at the toe of the seawall and at the toe of the berm are shown in [Table 2.4-224.](#page-113-0)

## 2.4.5.3.2.4 **Wave Run-up and Overtopping Rates**

Wave run-up on the slope to the Fermi 3 grade elevation of 178.0 m (590.5 ft) plant grade datum or 179.6 m (589.3 ft) NAVD 88 was analyzed to determine if waves could impact the unit. The wave characteristics calculated for the toe of the berm were used as inputs to the ACES model to calculate wave run-up and overtopping rates on the berm. Because the berm is onshore, it was simulated as a smooth slope. An example of the inputs and calculated outputs for the on site configuration are shown in

[Figure 2.4-230.](#page-166-0) The analysis of wave run-up determined that waves could not directly impact Fermi 3.

#### 2.4.5.4 **Resonance**

Resonance generated by waves can cause problems in enclosed water bodies, such as harbors and bays, when the period of oscillation of the water body is equal to the period of the incoming waves. However, the Fermi site is not located in an enclosed embayment. The full exposure to Lake Erie during PMWS conditions, plus the flat slopes surrounding the site area, results in a natural period of oscillation of the flooded area that is much greater than that of the incident shallow-water storm waves. Consequently, resonance is not a problem at the site during PMWS occurrence.

## 2.4.5.5 **Sedimentation and Erosion**

Fermi 3 does not rely on Lake Erie for a safety-related water source. Therefore, the loss of functionality of a safety-related water supply to Fermi 3 caused by blockages due to sediment deposition or erosion during a storm surge or seiche event is not a concern. The slope to Fermi 3 is appropriately designed to preclude significant erosion during the postulated storm surge.

## 2.4.5.6 **Protective Structures**

The storm surge and wave run-up results in waves that will break on the berm that is between the onshore flat area and the Fermi 3 elevation of 179.5 m (589.0 ft) IGLD 85 or 179.6 m (589.3 ft) NAVD 88. The analyses of the wave run-up indicate that the waves will not overtop the slope and impact Fermi 3. Therefore, additional protection is not needed.

# **EF3 COL 2.0-17-A** 2.4.6 **Probable Maximum Tsunami**

<span id="page-27-0"></span>The Fermi site is located in an area of the United States designated as having potentially minor seismic activity. Any tsunami activity in Lake Erie could only be generated by local seismic disturbances. Based on the history of the area, local seismic disturbances would result only in minor excitations in the lake. No tsunami has been recorded in Lake Erie; the only remotely similar phenomena observed have been low-amplitude seiches resulting from sudden barometric pressure differences. The low-amplitude seiches that could occur would be of negligible concern to the site ([Reference 2.4-258\)](#page-83-6). These events are further discussed in [Subsection 2.4.5.](#page-19-0)

Therefore, there are no potential tsunamis or tsunami-like waves which could affect safety-related structures or components at Fermi 3.

#### **EF3 COL 2.0-18-A** 2.4.7 **Ice Effects**

<span id="page-28-0"></span>The emergency cooling system for Fermi 3 is provided by the Ultimate Heat Sink (UHS) which does not rely on water sources external to the plant and is not affected by ice conditions. This is further described in Subsection 9.2.5. Therefore, there are no safety-related systems, structures, or components impacted by ice formations.

#### **EF3 COL 2.0-19-A** 2.4.8 **Cooling Water Canals and Reservoirs**

As described in [Subsection 2.4.1,](#page-0-1) Fermi 3 uses a natural draft cooling tower for rejecting heat from the CIRC. The Plant Service Water System (PSWS) rejects heat from station heat loads via the CIRC or the two Auxiliary Heat Sink (AHS) mechanical draft cooling towers. Make-up water for the CIRC and PSWS cooling towers are supplied from Lake Erie. Blowdown discharge from the CIRC is returned to Lake Erie via a discharge pipe outfall into the lake.

The Ultimate Heat Sink (UHS) for Fermi 3 is described in Subsection 9.2.5. The IC/PCCS pools contain a separate water supply in place during Fermi 3 operation for safety-related cooling in the event that use of the UHS is required. Lake Erie is not used for safety-related water withdrawal for Fermi 3.

Discussion of the probable maximum flood (PMF) level at the site is provided in [Subsection 2.4.3.](#page-12-0) The effects of probable maximum surge and seiche flooding and ice effect flooding are addressed in [Subsection 2.4.5](#page-19-0) and [Subsection 2.4.7](#page-28-0), respectively.

As described above, cooling water canals and reservoirs are not used for safety related functions by Fermi 3. Therefore, the water level effects due to failures of such structures are not applicable to Fermi 3.

## **EF3 COL 2.0-20-A** 2.4.9 **Channel Diversions**

Fermi 3 site and facilities are discussed in [Subsection 2.4.1](#page-0-1). The water supply for Fermi 3 is not obtained from channels; therefore, this subsection is not applicable. No safety-related systems, structures, or components are impacted.

#### **EF3 COL 2.0-21-A** 2.4.10 **Flooding Protection**

The maximum design basis Lake Erie flood elevation, presented in [Subsection 2.4.5,](#page-19-0) is 178.4 m (585.4 ft) NAVD 88, corresponding to 178.8 m (586.6 ft) plant grade datum. This elevation is below the Fermi 3 site grade elevation of 179.6 m (589.3 ft) NAVD 88 that meets the site parameters required in [DCD Table 2.0-1](#page-8-0). Furthermore, the maximum Swan Creek flood elevation at the Fermi 3 site is also calculated to be 178.4 m (585.4 ft) NAVD 88 in [Subsection 2.4.3.5.](#page-17-1) The Fermi 3 site grade is above all flood water levels that can possibly occur from the probable maximum storm events within the Swan Creek watershed, which encompasses the safety-related structures, systems, and components of Fermi 3. Rip-rap protection of the slope embankment at the make-up water intake location on Lake Erie will prevent wave activity from eroding the embankment near the on-shore structure.

The effects of intense local precipitation are considered in the design of drainage structures for Fermi 3, as mentioned in [Subsection 2.4.2.](#page-6-0) These facilities are designed such that the peak discharge from the local PMP will not produce flood elevations that pose a flooding hazard to any safety-related structure, system, and component of Fermi 3. Additionally, the design of the drainage facilities incorporate measures to ensure that Fermi 2 safety-related facilities are not subject to flooding during the construction or operation of Fermi 3. Applicable NRC, Federal, State, and local storm water management regulations are followed in the design of all drainage facilities for both the existing and the proposed site.

All safety-related components and structures are designed to withstand combinations of flood conditions as discussed in [Subsection 2.4.2](#page-6-0), [Subsection 2.4.3,](#page-12-0) and [Subsection 2.4.5](#page-19-0). Flood protection of safety-related structures, systems, and components, at an elevation of 179.6 m (589.3 ft) NAVD 88, are not necessary since the probable maximum surge still-water elevation only reaches 178.4 m (585.4 ft) NAVD 88.

#### **EF3 COL 2.0-22-A** 2.4.11 **Low Water Consideration**

#### <span id="page-30-0"></span>2.4.11.1 **Low Flow in Rivers and Streams**

Water from rivers and streams is not used for the operation of Fermi 3; therefore, low water levels in rivers and streams will have no direct effects or safety-risks to Fermi 3. The extent to which rivers and streams impact the water level in Lake Erie is the only effect potentially observed at the plant.

Lake Erie currently provides make-up cooling water for Fermi 2 and will also provide make-up cooling water for Fermi 3. For Fermi 3, the historical minimum lake level for operation is elevation 171.79 m (563.64 ft) IGLD 85, which corresponds to 171.9 m (563.9 ft) NAVD 88. The historic low water levels in Lake Erie are presented in [Subsection 2.4.11.3](#page-30-1).

The elevation of the base of the intake bay at the location of the pump suction is 169 m (553 ft) IGLD 85. This is more than 3 m (10 ft) below the record low water level for the lake; therefore, pump suction should not be a concern in periods of low lake levels.

The UHS does not rely on water sources external to the plant; therefore, there are no safety-related systems, structures, or components impacted by low water levels of Lake Erie. Consequently, low water levels do not pose a safety-related risk to Fermi 3.

#### 2.4.11.2 **Low Water Resulting from Surges, Seiches, or Tsunami**

In accordance with RG 1.206, low water resulting from surges, seiches, or tsunami only needs to be considered when these conditions would affect the function of safety-related facilities. Because the UHS does not rely on water sources external to the plant, low water effects resulting from surges, seiches, or tsunami are not considered in Lake Erie. The historical maximum recorded fall in water level due to surge and seiches are discussed in [Subsection 2.4.5](#page-19-0).

#### <span id="page-30-1"></span>2.4.11.3 **Historical Low Water**

[Table 2.4-225](#page-114-0) shows the most significant historical low water levels of Lake Erie, occurring from 1967 through 2007 at the Fermi site (Station No. 9063090) as measured by the NOAA Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory (GLERL), which conducts high quality research and provides scientific leadership on important issues in both Great Lakes and marine coastal environments. The lowest water level during this time period was recorded on February 16, 1967 at elevation 171.79 m (563.64 ft) IGLD 85, corresponding to 171.9 m (563.9 ft) NAVD 88. The second lowest water level during this time period was recorded on November 11, 2003 at elevation 171.96 m (564.19 ft) IGLD 85, corresponding to 172.04 m (564.45 ft) NAVD 88. ([Reference 2.4-259,](#page-83-7) [Reference 2.4-260](#page-83-0))

From the period of record of 1860 through 1973, the lowest observed monthly mean elevation of Lake Erie was during February of 1936, when an elevation of -0.37 m (-1.2 ft) (Low Water Datum) was recorded. For Lake Erie, low lake levels are generally recorded during the month of February. ([Reference 2.4-258\)](#page-83-6)

#### 2.4.11.4 **Future Controls**

There are no future controls anticipated for Lake Erie.

## 2.4.11.5 **Plant Requirements**

Lake Erie does not provide water for safety-related cooling; therefore, there are no safety-related plant requirements based on Lake Erie water levels.

## 2.4.11.6 **Heat Sink Dependability Requirements**

The Fermi 3 UHS is described in [DCD Section 9.2.5.](#page-75-0) Lake Erie is not relied on as a safety-related source of water withdrawals for emergency cooling.

## **EF3 COL 2.0-23-A** 2.4.12 **Groundwater**

<span id="page-31-0"></span>This section describes the regional, and onsite hydrogeologic conditions present at Fermi 3. For the purposes of this subsection, regional refers to the area of Monroe County, Michigan, and five counties adjacent to Monroe County, and onsite refers to the physical boundaries of the Fermi site. Regional and local groundwater resources that may be affected by the construction and operation of Fermi 3 are discussed. The regional and site-specific data on the physical and hydrologic characteristics of these groundwater resources are summarized in order to provide basic data for an evaluation of impacts on the aquifers of the area.

## 2.4.12.1 **Description and Onsite Use**

This section describes the following:

- Regional and onsite groundwater aquifers and associated geologic formations.
- Regional and onsite groundwater sources (areas of recharge) and sinks (areas of discharge). and
- Regional and onsite use of groundwater.

The Fermi site covers an area of approximately 510 hectares (1260 acres) and is located on the glacial plain on the western shoreline of Lake Erie in Monroe County, Michigan. The site is approximately 48 km (30 mi) southwest of Detroit, Michigan, and 39 km (24 mi) northeast of Toledo, Ohio. The existing Fermi 2 plant buildings date from the 1970's. They are located south of the two cooling towers and the circulating water basin, used for cooling water supply. Fermi 3 lies immediately southwest of Fermi 2 and east of the overflow canal ([Figure 2.4-231](#page-167-0)).

Historically, the site vicinity was characterized by surface wetlands. These wetlands were drained through the installation of drainage tiles in the 1800s to accommodate the development of local agriculture. There still exist many drainage ditches and tile systems in the area ([Reference 2.4-261](#page-83-8)). The Fermi site has virtually no relief, since the site lies entirely on imported fill material placed and graded after excavating significant volumes of native material, which was wetland in nature. ([Reference 2.4-262\)](#page-84-0) Swan Creek flows into an estuary on the northern edge of the site, which ultimately feeds into Lake Erie. The undeveloped area between the Fermi plant and Fisher Street to the west exhibits seasonally variable surface water and wetland vegetation.

Regional and local surface water features are described in [Subsection 2.4.1](#page-0-1) and a detailed description of regional and local geology is presented in Subsection 2.5.1.

## 2.4.12.1.1 **Regional Aquifers, Formations, Sources, and Sinks**

The site is located in Monroe County, Michigan, and lies in the Eastern Lake Section of the Central Lowlands Physiographic Province ([Reference 2.4-263](#page-84-1)). Physiographic provinces are described in detail in Subsection 2.5.1.1.1. Land surface in this area is characterized by relatively flat topography with some rolling hills. The geologic materials underlying the Central Lowlands Physiographic Province consist of Quaternary sediments of glacial and lake origin atop a sequence of Paleozoic carbonate units (Subsection 2.5.1.1.3).

Regionally, the Surficial Aquifer System is the uppermost and most widespread aquifer in the area [\(Reference 2.4-264\)](#page-84-2). This aquifer system consists primarily of glacial sediments deposited during multiple glaciations in the Paleo-Pleistocene epochs. In areas where significant quantities of sand and gravel have been deposited, the aquifer may provide water supply for local wells. Glacial deposits thicken northwest of the site. In areas of northern mainland Michigan near Lake Michigan, glacially-derived sand and gravel deposits may be up to 305 m (1000 ft) thick. In the site vicinity, however, these deposits are mapped as being less than 15 m (50 ft) thick, which is confirmed by data collected during the Fermi 3 hydrogeology and geotechnical subsurface investigation, and are comprised almost entirely of clay and other fine-grained sediments (Subsection 2.5.1.2.3). The native glacial materials at the site are not, for the purposes of this document, considered to be an aquifer, since they consist almost entirely of clay and silt, and wells completed in these materials have not generally demonstrated the ability to produce water in economically beneficial quantities. However, regionally, these sediments are hydrologically significant due to the water they transmit over large areas to the underlying bedrock formations.

The unconsolidated deposits that make up the shallow zone vary in thickness in Monroe County from approximately 43 m (140 ft) thick in the northwestern part of Monroe County to zero thickness at some streams. The typical thickness in Monroe County is no more than 15 m (50 ft) ([Reference 2.4-264\)](#page-84-2). The unconsolidated deposits are made up primarily of glacial till and lacustrine deposits (Subsection 2.5.1.2.3).

The primary source of recharge for the Surficial Aquifer System is from direct precipitation onto the aquifer surface where it is exposed. During times of elevated water surface elevations in Lake Erie, the shallow aquifer along the coast may be directly recharged from surface water features. Regional sinks, or areas of discharge, from the Surficial Aquifer System include discharge to wells, and discharge to streams, lakes, and other surface water features.

The glacial deposits are underlain by a series of Silurian-Devonian bedrock formations consisting primarily of limestone and dolomite, with some small sandstone layers locally [\(Figure 2.4-232\)](#page-168-0). These formations reach thicknesses of thousands of feet and contain groundwater that ranges from fresh to brackish. Significant amounts of groundwater are withdrawn from the bedrock aquifer for industrial, municipal, and irrigation purposes ([Reference 2.4-264\)](#page-84-2). As part of the U.S. Geological Survey's Regional Aquifer-System Analysis (RASA) program [\(Reference 2.4-265](#page-84-3)), the bedrock aquifer, which is composed of Silurian-Devonian aged carbonates, was subdivided into five permeable zones, vertically adjacent and bounded on the top and bottom of this sequence by non-aquifer shales. The units are from bottom to top (oldest to youngest):

- Salina Group.
- Bass Islands Group.
- Sylvania Sandstone.
- Detroit River Dolomite.
- Dundee Formation.

The hydraulic properties of these strata differ. However, there are no significant continuous confining units between them, leading to their consideration regionally as a single undifferentiated bedrock aquifer, in which groundwater occurs under artesian conditions beneath the surficial aquifer. [Figure 2.4-233](#page-169-0) presents a conceptual cross section of the aquifers trending NW-SE beneath Monroe County ([Reference 2.4-261\)](#page-83-8).

Regionally, the Antrim and Coldwater shales overlie the Dundee Formation and generally are not considered to be aquifers, and prevent significant recharge from overlying glacial deposits where present. Thus, where present, these shale units act as a confining unit above the Silurian-Devonian aquifer. The Coldwater Shale was used as the lateral hydraulic boundary in the Michigan Basin RASA. [\(Reference 2.4-266](#page-84-4))

Regionally, the Ordovician or lower Silurian shales comprise the lower boundary to the bedrock aquifer system. The base of the Michigan Basin bedrock aquifer considered here is assumed to be the Salina Group Unit C Shale. The boundary to groundwater flow west of the regional study area is saline water. The density difference between saline and fresh water retards freshwater flow and creates a boundary to regional movement. Lake Erie constitutes a hydraulic boundary to the east. Under pre-development conditions, the lake represented a discharge area for groundwater flow from the bedrock aquifer. In recent decades, however, bedrock water levels in Monroe County have declined to the point that in places they are tens of meters below lake level in the county, thereby inducing flow from beneath the lake to local discharge areas. It is assumed that water levels in the bedrock aquifer approach lake level at some point eastward beneath Lake Erie [\(Reference 2.4-267](#page-84-5)).

The primary source of recharge for the bedrock aquifer is areally extensive downward vertical groundwater flow from the overlying glacial sediments to the bedrock formations, where confining shales are not present. Regional sinks, or areas of discharge, include flow to wells and downward flow from upper bedrock units to those underlying.

## 2.4.12.1.1.1 **Sole Source Aquifers**

A Sole Source Aquifer (SSA), as defined by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), is an aquifer which is the sole or principal source that supplies at least fifty percent of the drinking water consumed by the area overlying the aquifer. The SSA program was created by the United States Congress in the Safe Drinking Water Act. The Act allows for the protection of these resources.

The Fermi site is located in EPA Region 5, which covers Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, and Ohio. The EPA has designated seven aquifers in the Region as a SSA ([Reference 2.4-268](#page-84-7)), with one additional aquifer pending designation ([Reference 2.4-269\)](#page-84-6). None of these SSAs are located in the state of Michigan. The closest SSA is the Bass Islands aquifer on Catawba Island in eastern Ottawa County, Ohio, about 56 km (35 mi) southeast across Lake Erie.

A map of SSAs in EPA Region 5 is presented on [Figure 2.4-234.](#page-170-0) A summary of SSAs is presented as [Table 2.4-226](#page-115-0).

# 2.4.12.1.2 **Site Aquifers, Formations, Sources, and Sinks**

The zone of shallow overburden characterized by unconsolidated deposits at Fermi 3 average 9 m (28 ft) in thickness (Subsection 2.5.1.2.3.2), which is consistent with conditions in much of Monroe County ([Reference 2.4-264](#page-84-2)). The local bedrock formation subcropping beneath the overburden is the Bass Islands Group. As previously stated, this unit is part of the bedrock aquifer that exists throughout Monroe County. The Salina Group underlies the Bass Islands aquifer at the site. Geologic cross sections based on the Fermi 3 subsurface investigation data are presented in Subsection 2.5.1 and on Figure 2.5.1-228 through Figure 2.5.1-240.

The uppermost hydrogeologic unit present at the site is the shallow overburden. This layer is collectively comprised of rock fill imported for
plant construction (0-3 m [0-16 ft]), lacustrine deposits consisting of peaty silt and clay (2-9 m [0-9 ft]), and two distinct units of glacial till composed primarily of clay (1.8-5.8 m [6-19 ft]) (Subsection 2.5.1.2.3.2.1 and Subsection 2.5.1.2.3.2.2). The Fermi site in its undeveloped state was underlain by approximately 9 m (30 ft) of glacial till and lacustrine deposits. Approximately 0-6 m (0-20 ft) of this native material was excavated and removed from some areas during Fermi 2 construction, and replaced with fill material more suitable to geotechnical requirements during construction of Fermi 1 and 2. The fill for Fermi 2 was primarily rock removed from the onsite quarry southwest of the plant which is now identified as Fermi 2 Quarry Lakes [\(Figure 2.4-231](#page-167-0)). Some clay material was used as fill at Fermi 1. The overburden is not considered an aquifer for the purpose of this document, because, with the exception of the quarried rock fill, the earth materials are characterized by low hydraulic conductivity such that water cannot be extracted from a well in significant quantities. As part of the Fermi 3 subsurface investigation, 17 monitoring wells and piezometers were installed into this layer. Hydraulic parameters and groundwater movement within and from this layer are discussed later in this section.

As with the Regional Surficial Aquifer System, the primary source of recharge for the groundwater within the overburden on site is direct precipitation onto the land surface. The portion of precipitation that does not run off, evaporate, or get consumed by plant transpiration ultimately percolates downward through the unsaturated zone to replenish the water table. During times of elevated water surface elevations in Lake Erie, the shallow zone may be directly recharged from surface water features. Additionally, groundwater inflow from the west flows onto the site, as discussed in the water level section in [Subsection 2.4.12.2.3](#page-39-0) Local sinks in the shallow zone include discharge to surface water features, and to the atmosphere via evapotranspiration losses.

The Bass Islands aquifer lies beneath the overburden at the site. As previously described, this is a bedrock dolomite aquifer in which the primary flow is in the fracture system present in the formation. For the purposes of this discussion, the entire thickness of the Bass Islands Group is considered to be an aquifer. Eleven monitoring wells and/or piezometers were installed into the Bass Islands aquifer as part of the hydrogeologic field program. The primary recharge source for the Bass Islands aquifer at the Fermi site under pre-development conditions is

downward vertical flow from the overlying shallow zone and lateral inflow from the west. Surface water features may recharge the Bass Islands aquifer locally as discussed in [Subsection 2.4.12.2.3.2.2](#page-46-0) and [Subsection 2.4.12.2.3.2.4.](#page-49-0)

The Salina Group underlies the Bass Islands Group at the site. The Salina Group is also a bedrock aquifer with observed joints and fracture systems with multiple orientations, vuggy zones, and paleokarst features, all of which contribute to the hydraulic conductivity. One piezometer (P-398 D) is screened in the Salina Group Unit F. Another piezometer (P-399D) that targeted the Bass Islands Group penetrated the upper few meters of the Salina Group.

## 2.4.12.1.3 **Onsite Use**

The plant potable water supply is furnished by Frenchtown Township, Michigan, which uses a water intake in Lake Erie for its source water. The Station Water source for Fermi 3 operations is a new intake structure on Lake Erie.

No permanent dewatering systems are required for Fermi 3. Fermi 3 does not use groundwater for any plant operating requirements or permanent needs.

## 2.4.12.2 **Sources**

This section describes:

- Current and projected groundwater use in the region.
- Regional and local groundwater levels and movement.
- Hydrogeologic properties of subsurface materials.
- Potential for reversibility of groundwater flow.
- Effects of groundwater use on gradients beneath the site.

# 2.4.12.2.1 **Present Groundwater Use**

Although Lake Erie is the largest regional water supply source, and many communities in the region are supplied by various water supply entities tapping this source, some water user groups in the area rely on groundwater for their supply.

The largest withdrawals of groundwater in Monroe County are at quarries ([Reference 2.4-261](#page-83-0) and [Reference 2.4-270](#page-84-0)). There are seven quarries in Monroe County that are presently active on at least a seasonal basis. In addition, there are two active quarries in Wayne County. These quarries are shown on [Figure 2.4-235](#page-171-0).

Some local households are domestically self-sufficient for water. Groundwater is the largest source of water for self-sufficient households according to the year 2000 USGS Water Use estimates ([Reference 2.4-270\)](#page-84-0).

Groundwater is used to a lesser extent for public water supply systems as classified by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ). This information is reported to the EPA which displays the information through the Safe Drinking Water Information System (SDWIS). SDWIS shows that only three community water systems in Monroe County use groundwater as their primary water source ([Reference 2.4-271\)](#page-84-1).

- The closest community water system that uses groundwater is the Flat Rock Village Mobile Home Park. The Flat Rock Village Mobile Home Park is located approximately 10.5 km (6.5 mi) to the northwest of the site and serves 830 people.
- The next closest is the Bennett Mobile Home Park located approximately 37 km (23 mi) to the southwest of the site and serves 70 people, and
- The farthest is the Bedford Meadows Apartments also known as Stoney Trail Apartments that serves 140 people and is located approximately 40 km (25 mi) to the southwest of the site.

Monroe County also has 15 non-community, non-transient water systems (a public water system that regularly supplies water to at least 25 of the same people at least six months per year, but not year-round), along with 102 transient, non-community water systems (a public water system that provides water in a place such as a gas station or campground where people do not remain for long periods of time) ([Reference 2.4-272](#page-85-0)) that use groundwater. Wayne County, Michigan, whose southern boundary is located about 9.7 km (6 mi) north-northeast of the site, has no community water systems using groundwater and only one non-transient, non-community water system using groundwater which is located 56 km (35 mi) north-northwest of the site at Maybury Child Care.

Washtenaw County, Michigan, whose boundary is located approximately 25 km (16 mi) northwest of the site, has 21 community water systems that use groundwater, however, only one is located within 40 km (25 mi) of the site: the City of Milan. The city has four water wells that are located between 24 and 30 m (80 and 100 ft) deep. [\(Reference 2.4-273](#page-85-3))

Groundwater is used for irrigation of crops at many locations throughout Monroe and Washtenaw Counties.

[Figure 2.4-236](#page-172-0), [Figure 2.4-237](#page-173-0), and [Figure 2.4-238](#page-174-0) display all wells in the state databases that lie within 3.2 km, 8 km, and 40 km (2 mi, 5 mi, and 25 mi) of the Fermi site. Because there is no groundwater use at Fermi 3, it is considered that the 40 km (25-mi) radius circle lies well beyond any potential influence from plant operations. Information regarding wells within 40 km (25 mi) of the Fermi site is presented by

county in Appendix 2.4AA ([Reference 2.4-274,](#page-85-2) [Reference 2.4-275\)](#page-85-1).

## 2.4.12.2.2 **Projected Future Groundwater Use**

Year 2000 water use data documented in USGS Circular 1268 ([Reference 2.4-270\)](#page-84-0) is supplemented with the State of Michigan water use data for Thermoelectric Power Generation for the year 2000 ([Reference 2.4-276\)](#page-85-4), and data presented in USGS Investigations Report 03-4312 ([Reference 2.4-261\)](#page-83-0) for a combined estimate of year 2000 water use by water user group. Water user groups include Public Supply, Self-Supplied Domestic, Industrial (including quarries), Irrigation, and Thermoelectric Power Generation.

Using population projection data and the year 2000 water use data, estimates were developed of future water use by user group through the year 2060. A direct linear relationship was assumed between population and water usage for water user groups Public Supply, Self-Supplied Domestic Users, and Industrial Users. The projected water use was increased or decreased by the percentage change in population for both Monroe and Wayne counties. For the user groups Irrigation, Livestock, and Thermoelectric Power Generation, no direct linear relation with population was assumed. Projected use estimates for these categories were maintained at the level of usage reported in the year 2000.

Projected water use by user group for Monroe County and Wayne County, Michigan, is presented in [Table 2.4-227](#page-116-0) and [Table 2.4-228](#page-117-0), respectively.

## <span id="page-39-0"></span>2.4.12.2.3 **Ground Water Levels and Movement**

This subsection presents regional and local data describing the movement of groundwater at and near Fermi 3. Data was gathered from public sources and collected onsite during the Fermi 3 subsurface investigation in 2007. The details of the subsurface investigations are described in Subsection 2.5.4.2.2.1.

## <span id="page-40-0"></span>2.4.12.2.3.1 **Regional Groundwater Levels and Movement**

Prior to the development of agriculture in the state and the associated draining of wetland areas, groundwater elevations along the Lake Erie shoreline in both the surficial aquifer system and the bedrock aquifer were above the lake level, and artesian flow conditions in wells was common [\(Reference 2.4-261](#page-83-0)). As part of a regional modeling report, the USGS presents simulated regional groundwater flow in the bedrock aquifer under pre-development conditions ([Figure 2.4-239](#page-175-0)). This figure displays the understanding that under pre-development conditions, regional flow in the bedrock aquifer in the Michigan-Ohio region was generally from the southwest to the northeast, with Lake Erie being an area of regional discharge. These results correspond with regional patterns and pre-development conditions described by Nicholas et al ([Reference 2.4-277\)](#page-85-5).

Groundwater conditions in Monroe County were evaluated using data from a series of USGS monitoring wells installed in the county in the early 1990's. There are a total of 40 wells that have some records for the depth to groundwater. As part of the investigation for IR 94-4161 ([Reference 2.4-277\)](#page-85-5) the USGS drilled 33 observation wells into the bedrock aquifers and one into the unconsolidated glacial deposits. The USGS also has two long-term observation wells located approximately 3.2 km (2 mi) southeast of Petersburg, Michigan (about 37 km [23 mi] to the west southwest of the site). Ash Township installed four observation wells in early 2006.

Potentiometric surface maps for the bedrock aquifer in Monroe County for the years 1993 and the initial period beginning in 2008 are presented on [Figure 2.4-240](#page-176-0) and [Figure 2.4-241.](#page-177-0) Most of the wells used in these maps are completed in the Bass Islands Group, although some wells in the northwest portion of Monroe County are completed in younger strata of the Silurian-Devonian bedrock aquifer. These figures reinforce the observation of the southwest to northeast flow direction evident in the regional water levels. Groundwater flow enters beneath Monroe County from the southwest, and the primary flow direction is to the northeast. The 1993 water level map displays a cone of depression along the

northeastern county line associated with quarrying operations located there. The 2008 potentiometric surface map displays a significant new groundwater depression centered just southwest of the City of Monroe, Michigan. This is apparently associated with a new quarrying operation that was not active in 1993. The contour maps demonstrate that dewatering of quarries can significantly impact the bedrock groundwater flow.

#### 2.4.12.2.3.2 **Site Groundwater Levels and Movement**

As part of the Fermi 3 subsurface investigation, 28 groundwater piezometers and monitoring wells were installed and developed at the site. Using the information on the soil and bedrock stratigraphy, monitoring wells were installed in the overburden, and the Bass Islands and Salina Groups. Water levels in these wells were measured on a monthly basis from June 2007 to May 2008. In addition to wells installed for the Fermi 3 program, water levels in some existing Fermi site wells installed as part of other projects were also measured and recorded. The water level elevation data presented in this section is referenced to North American Vertical Datum 1988 (NAVD 88). [Table 2.4-229](#page-118-0) presents construction details of wells considered in this analysis. The elevation of water recorded in each well is presented in [Table 2.4-231.](#page-121-0)

Five surface water gauging stations (GS-1 through GS-5) were also installed as part of the Fermi 3 subsurface investigation. The surface water gauges installed as part of Fermi 3 were not readable from November 2007 to March 2008 due to ice buildup at the stations. Gauges GS-1 through GS-3, and GS-5, were re-established in April 2008. GS-4 was not re-established since its data was redundant to the other wells. Surface water gauge elevation data is presented on [Table 2.4-230](#page-120-0). Surface water elevations at GS-1 through GS-4 were used to help develop groundwater contours in the shallow zone. It should be noted, however, that the surface water elevation data are considered somewhat less precise than measured groundwater elevations due to the effects of wind and tides on water at the gauges. For this reason, if small discrepancies between surface water and groundwater elevations were observed, they may not be reflected in the contours if the data was judged to be anomalous with respect to the rest of the data. This circumstance was most prevalent at Gauge GS-3, located in the shallow water of the lagoon south of Fermi Drive, which is in direct hydraulic connection with Lake Erie. Gauge GS-5 is not used for contouring

because the quarry in which it is located is hydraulically connected to both the Bass Islands aquifer and the overburden. Surface water elevations from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fermi Gauge Station were used. The circulating water basin located to the north of the Fermi 2 Protected Area had a surface water gauge at which data was collected only from June through August 2007. However, this data was not used in developing contours because Fermi 2 construction drawings indicate that the pond is encircled by a clay dike keyed into the underlying glacial till, thereby minimizing the hydraulic connection between the pond and the surrounding rock fill. The surface water features in the undeveloped wetland area west of the overflow canal were used to help shape contours.

#### 2.4.12.2.3.2.1 **Overburden**

The following issues were considered in the interpretation of onsite water level data from wells screened in the overburden.

Seventeen monitor wells/piezometers were installed into the overburden at the site to document hydrogeologic conditions. Additionally, five wells previously installed as part of other projects were included in the overburden data collection (EFT-1 S, EFT-1I, EFT-2 S, MW-5d, and GW-02).

Several man-made features at the site affect groundwater levels in the overburden. The site contains a series of clay-filled construction dikes that were built as part of the construction effort for Fermi 2 ([Figure](#page-167-0) [2.4-231](#page-167-0)). A former muck disposal site is located in the southwest area of the site. Monitoring wells MW-383 S and MW-384 S are located in this area, and were installed into material that was dredged from the site and/or Lake Erie during and after the construction of Fermi 2. The area of Fermi 1 occupied by EFT-1 S and EFT-2 S consists of clay fill, and these wells are screened in this material. These issues were considered during the development of overburden water table contours.

Five of the 16 wells installed to date as part of the Fermi 1 License termination were considered for use with this COL Application. These five wells are split into two well groups by location, which are EFT-1 and EFT-2. The EFT-1 well group consists of three wells, a shallow, intermediate, and deep. The EFT-2 well group consists of two wells, a shallow and a deep well. The shallow wells monitor the clay fill installed during construction of Fermi 1, the intermediate well monitors the native glacial till, and the deep wells monitor the upper part of the Bass Islands Group.

Water levels collected in June and July 2007 for monitoring well MW-388S were not used because the recorded water levels at or below well screen at this location.

Water level data were collected at monthly intervals for 12 months from June 2007 to May 2008. Only quarterly maps are presented as part of this discussion, displaying conditions that varied seasonally and with the construction activities on site. The remainder of the monthly water level maps is presented in Appendix 2.4BB.

June 2007: The overburden water table map contoured from data collected on June 29, 2007 is presented on [Figure 2.4-242.](#page-178-0)

Two distinct patterns of groundwater flow are evident in this map; one in the active plant area, and one in the undeveloped area west of the plant. The active plant area is defined for the purpose of this document as the area bounded by the overflow canal, Fermi Drive, and Lake Erie. The undeveloped area is defined as the area between the overflow canal and Fisher Street.

The water table surface in the active plant area is characterized by radial flow outward from a local maximum near the center of the plant area (well MW-5d in Fermi 2) toward the construction dikes previously discussed, and ultimately to the surface water features of Lake Erie, the overflow canal, and the lagoons north and south of the active plant area. It is assumed that the construction dikes control the location of the contours due to the low permeability of clay as compared to the adjacent rock fill. There are local minima in the water table surface apparent at P-397 S and MW-386 S. These may reflect variations in the overburden and/or bedrock.

Wells MW-387 S, P-385 S, and MW-386 S have groundwater elevations lower than the surface water elevations at all five of the surface water gauge stations considered. This indicates that there may be local flow from the surface water features onto the Fermi 3 site during this monitoring event. Local perched groundwater in the southern part of the active area near wells MW-383 S and MW-384 S, and near wells EFT-1 S and EFT-2 S, is likely associated with clay fill placed there during previous construction.

The undeveloped area west of the overflow canal displays contours that indicate flow approximately northwestward from the overflow canal to the offsite area beyond Fisher Street. There are local minima in the water table surface apparent at P-382 S and P-389 S, with water table elevations lower than the nearby surface water elevations in the overflow canal. These features may reflect variations in underlying bedrock topography or hydraulic conductivity. At P-382 S, there is a sandy silt layer logged at the bottom of the boring that may provide a preferential path for drainage from the overburden to the underlying bedrock, possibly causing this local water table depression.

September 2007: The overburden water table map generated from data collected on September 28-29, 2007 is presented on [Figure 2.4-243.](#page-179-0)

For the active plant area, the groundwater flow patterns are similar to those observed in the June monitoring event. In the Fermi 2 area, groundwater appears to flow radially outward from a local maximum near MW-5d toward the construction dikes and encircling surface water features. Local perched groundwater is apparent near Fermi 1 and in the former muck disposal area in the southwest part of the active area. The water level in the area of Fermi 3 is now higher than the surrounding surface water, indicating groundwater flow discharging to the surface water bodies.

The contours in the undeveloped area west of the plant, by contrast, display a marked change in flow pattern from the June event. Although there is still a small component of flow directed offsite to the northwest, as defined by the low elevation at MW-388 S, the primary flow direction of this area has reversed from the June event. The primary flow direction is now eastward toward the overflow canal. The cause of this change may reflect seasonally variable hydrologic conditions associated with the wetlands present on the surface. Piezometers P-382 S and P-389 S again display groundwater elevations lower than the nearby surface water elevations, defining local minima in the water table.

December 2007: The overburden water table map generated from data collected on December 30, 2007 is presented on [Figure 2.4-244.](#page-180-0)

For the active plant area, the groundwater flow patterns in December are similar to those observed in the June and September monitoring events. In the Fermi 2 area, groundwater still appears to flow radially outward from a local maximum near MW-5d toward the construction dikes and encircling surface water features. Local perched groundwater is apparent near Fermi 1 and in the former muck disposal area in the southwest part of the active area. Groundwater elevations at Fermi 3 are marginally higher than the surface water elevation recorded at the NOAA gauge.

The contours in the undeveloped area west of the plant have changed slightly from the flow pattern displayed in the September event. There is now an unambiguous gradient from the corners of the site toward the surface water features. From MW-381 S, the primary direction of flow is east/northeast toward the wetland surface water feature north of Fermi Drive and the overflow canal. From MW-393 S, flow is southeast toward the same features, indicative of the surface water features being discharge areas for the overburden groundwater flow at the time of data collection. There is no longer any component of flow evident from the contours that indicate offsite flow to the west, as there was in the June and September monitoring events. Piezometer P-389 S displays an elevation that is a local minimum, lower than the nearby surface water elevations. P-382 S is no longer a minimum as it was in September and June.

March 2008: The shallow zone water table map generated from data collected on March 29, 2008 is presented on [Figure 2.4-245.](#page-181-0)

For the active plant area, the groundwater flow patterns in March are similar to those observed in the previous monitoring events. In the Fermi 2 area, groundwater still appears to flow radially outward from a local maximum near MW-5d toward the construction dikes and encircling surface water features. Local perched groundwater is apparent near Fermi 1 and in the former muck disposal area in the southwest part of the active area. The area near MW-386 S is a local minimum in the water table surface.

The contours in the undeveloped area west of the plant are similar to those displayed in the December event. There is a clear gradient from the corners of the site converging toward the surface water features. From MW-381 S, the primary direction of flow is east/northeast toward the wetland surface water feature north of Fermi Drive and the overflow canal. From MW-393 S, flow is southeast toward the same features, indicative of the surface water features being discharge areas for the shallow zone groundwater flow at the time of data collection. Piezometer P-389 S still displays an elevation that is a local minimum, lower than the nearby surface water elevations.

#### <span id="page-46-0"></span>2.4.12.2.3.2.2 **Bass Islands Aquifer**

The following issues were considered in the interpretation of onsite water level data from wells screened in the Bass Islands aquifer.

Water levels from four wells were omitted from the analysis due to issues regarding their construction details. It was observed that filter packs in wells MW-387 D and GW-01 extended slightly up into the overlying glacial till. Due to this circumstance, it was judged that the water levels measured in these wells were not effectively isolated from the hydraulic influence of groundwater conditions in the overburden, and these data were not contoured. Similarly, wells EFT-1 D and EFT-2 D have approximately one foot of bentonite seal between the top of the well screen and the bottom of the glacial till. For the purpose of water level map development, this seal was not considered adequate between the till and bedrock well screen as compared to other wells included in this data analysis. The comparatively elevated water levels in EFT-1 D and EFT-2 D compared to those nearby suggest that the short bentonite well seal may not effectively isolate the water levels expressed in these bedrock wells from the influence of the groundwater in the overburden, which has a higher head than the groundwater in the bedrock aquifer.

Apart from well construction issues, the heterogeneous conditions of a fracture flow system, coupled with the variety of well screened intervals, introduce a measure of ambiguity into the interpretation of the water level data. Monitoring wells and piezometers screened in the Bass Islands aquifer were installed under both the hydrogeology and the geotechnical subsurface investigations. Under the hydrogeology investigation, screen interval selections were based on the location of the most fractured and permeable zones identified at each boring location during the packer testing program. Under the geotechnical investigation, boring depths and screen interval selections were based on anticipated excavation depths during plant construction. This results in well completions at varying depths within the Bass Islands aquifer. Some monitoring wells and piezometers are screened near the top of the aquifer, some midway, and others near the bottom. [Figure 2.4-257](#page-193-0) displays the effective intervals of each well completed in the Bass Islands aquifer. The Bass Islands aquifer is a distinct hydrogeologic unit; however, the varied zones monitored within the Bass Islands aquifer, coupled with the irregular nature of the fracture system introduce considerable local complexity to the data, including evidence of downward vertical flow (discussed in [Subsection 2.4.12.2.3.2.4](#page-49-0)). However, the contours were developed in adherence to the data collected, and reflect the overall trends of groundwater flow within the Bass Islands aquifer.

One piezometer, P-399 D, straddles the Bass Islands Group-Salina Group contact. Inspection of the downhole natural gamma log for this boring indicates that the bottom 1.5 m (5 ft) of the screen penetrates the extreme upper portion of the Salina Group Unit F. This could potentially have the effect of lowering water level measurements in this piezometer due to downward flow from the Bass Islands Group into the Salina Group (discussed in detail in [Subsection 2.4.12.2.3.2.4\)](#page-49-0). Because this is an important southern control point, and because the effect of the screen placement on water levels is ambiguous, data from this well were used in the development of potentiometric surface contours.

All bedrock wells have water levels that reflect artesian conditions except for MW-381 D. Water levels measured in MW-381 D are consistently below the top of the Bass Islands Group.

Data from surface water Gauge GS-5 was not used to develop contours. This gauge is located in a lake formed by a quarry that penetrates into the bedrock; therefore, the lake level is hydraulically associated with both the bedrock aquifer and the overburden. It is assumed that the Bass Islands aquifer is effectively hydraulically separated from other surface water features.

June 2007: The Bass Islands aquifer potentiometric surface map generated from data collected on June 29, 2007 is presented on [Figure](#page-182-0) [2.4-246](#page-182-0).

The contours developed for June through August 2007 indicate a significantly different flow pattern than the contours developed for the ensuing months. This is likely due to effects from the geotechnical field program, which was being carried out simultaneously with the water level data collection for the summer month monitoring events. Several geotechnical borings in the Fermi 3 area were open during this time period, providing a hydraulic connection between the Bass Islands Group and the underlying Salina Group. Because the vertical gradient between these two units is downward, this provided a temporary local sink for groundwater flow in the Bass Islands aquifer.

The flow pattern indicates that the groundwater appears to be flowing onto the active site area from the north, and converging towards the area of the geotechnical investigation at Fermi 3. The closed contours at Fermi 3 indicate that groundwater is converging on the area from all directions. Groundwater entering this sink in the Bass Islands aquifer is likely being conveyed downward into the Salina Group through the open geotechnical borings.

More distant from the Fermi 3 area, beneath the undeveloped area west of the overflow canal, flow direction is south by southwest. In the area south of Fermi Drive, the flow direction is approximately northward. The southern and northern flow regimes converge along an axis parallel with the location of Fermi Drive, moving toward a local minimum defined at MW-381 D. This flow direction is counter to the regional flow direction, which is approximately toward Lake Erie, but may be impacted by off-site quarry dewatering activities, as previously discussed.

September 2007: The Bass Islands aquifer potentiometric surface map generated from water level data collected on September 28-29, 2007 is presented on [Figure 2.4-247.](#page-183-0)

All the geotechnical borings that had provided vertical hydraulic connection had been abandoned and backfilled at least seven days prior to this monitoring event. This appears to have had a marked effect on the groundwater flow patterns. There are no longer any closed contours or a groundwater sink evident in the potentiometric surface at Fermi 3. The gradient across the Fermi 3 site is comparatively steep, but flow continues to the southwest and west, and appears to flow offsite to the west.

September is the first month in which water level data was collected from piezometer EB/TSC-C2. Water levels in this piezometer are over 1.2 m (4 ft) higher than those recorded in nearby piezometers P-385 D and CB-C5. The groundwater contour interpretation presented in [Figure](#page-183-0) [2.4-247](#page-183-0) displays an elongated lobe of slightly elevated water levels (groundwater mound) over the western half of Fermi 2. The screened interval for piezometer EB/TSC-C2 is considerably shallower than those of P-385 D and CB-C5, creating some complexity in the contour analysis due to the downward gradient in the bedrock ([Subsection 2.4.12.2.3.2.4](#page-49-0)). However, even with the complexities, the contours indicate that the primary flow direction beneath the site is still to the south. The presence of the mound associated with EB/TSC-C2 has the effect of creating a local area of flow beneath Fermi 2 that is directed eastward towards Lake Erie. There is a very small eastward component of flow near MW-391 D

in the June potentiometric surface map [\(Figure 2.4-246\)](#page-182-0), but the inclusion of the elevation data for EB/TSC-C2 accentuates the eastward flow direction in this area.

Flow from the south converges with flow from the north to flow offsite to the west/northwest in the vicinity of MW-381 D.

December 2007: The Bass Islands aquifer potentiometric surface map generated from water level data collected on December 30, 2007 is presented on [Figure 2.4-248.](#page-184-0)

The flow patterns displayed in the potentiometric surface are similar to those observed during the September monitoring event. Flow enters the site from the north and south, and converges to leave the site to the west in the vicinity of MW-381D. There remains a mound in the potentiometric surface associated with EB/TSC-2, and local flow to the east beneath Fermi 2 is toward Lake Erie. However, the gradient of the flow entering the site from the south appears to be somewhat flatter than was evident in the September map.

March 2008: The Bass Islands aquifer potentiometric surface map generated from water level data collected on March 29, 2008 is presented on [Figure 2.4-249.](#page-185-0)

The flow patterns are similar to those displayed in September and December 2007. Flow enters from the north and south, and exits to the west/northwest in the vicinity of MW-381 D. Mounding is still evident at EB/TSC-2. Locally, flow leaves eastward toward Lake Erie near MW-391 D. The flow gradient of groundwater entering the site from the south continues to flatten.

# 2.4.12.2.3.2.3 **Salina Group – Unit F Aquifer**

One piezometer intended to be screened in the Bass Islands aquifer is completed within the Salina Group (P-398 D). Since only one well is screened in this unit, contours can not be generated for this aquifer. However, water levels at this well were lower than the surrounding water levels from wells screened in the Bass Islands aquifer.

## <span id="page-49-0"></span>2.4.12.2.3.2.4 **Vertical Flow**

The USGS indicated that regionally, the vertical gradient of groundwater flow was downward from the surficial aquifer system to the Silurian-Devonian bedrock aquifer [\(Reference 2.4-261](#page-83-0)). Local site data confirm this conceptual understanding. Beneath the site, the vertical component of groundwater flow is predominantly downward from the overburden to the Bass Islands aquifer. This is generally evidenced by the paired hydrographs displayed on [Figure 2.4-250](#page-186-0).

These hydrographs display monthly water level time series for well pairs in which one well is completed in the overburden, and the immediately adjacent well is completed in the bedrock aquifer. The well pairs in the southern half of the site (MW-381, MW-383, MW-384, MW-386, P-385) display strong downward gradients from the overburden to the bedrock aquifer, with head differences of over 4.6 m (15 ft) in some cases (MW-381).

To the north at site MW-395 located along the overflow canal, there is only a very slight difference in head between the two zones, indicating that they are nearly in equilibrium with one another. This is an indication that the Bass Islands aquifer may be receiving more recharge in this area than further south at Fermi 3. Well pairs MW-388/GW-04 and MW-393 S/D, located along the western site boundary in the undeveloped portion of the site, display hydrograph lines that cross, indicating that the direction of vertical flow, though predominantly downward, may reverse locally with seasonal conditions.

The effect of the open geotechnical boreholes during the summer months is also reflected on the hydrographs of the wells located at Fermi 3. Hydrographs for MW-387 D and P-385 D, located within the geotechnical subsurface investigation area, display lower water levels for the months of June through August that recover significantly in September after the geotechnical borings were properly abandoned and the hydraulic connection between the Bass Islands Group and the Salina Group was removed. This is additional evidence of a downward vertical gradient.

As previously discussed, the Fermi 3 water level patterns for the Bass Islands aquifer for June, July, and August 2007 reflect the presence of a groundwater sink in the area of the geotechnical borings.(July and August maps are included in Appendix 2.4BB). These borings were left open into the Salina Group during this time, and the presence of the closed contour in these maps indicates that water flowed from the Bass Islands Group downward into the Salina Group via the open boreholes, indicating a downward vertical gradient.

Evidence that flow is downward from the Bass Islands aquifer to the Salina Group is also reflected in water levels collected at P-398 D.

Although this is the only well completed in the Salina Group, the groundwater elevations here are consistently and significantly lower than those recorded in the nearest Bass Islands wells (MW-391 D and MW-395 D), providing further evidence of a downward gradient between the units.

Downward vertical flow is also evident in the bedrock based on water level data from monitoring wells and piezometers screened in different zones within the Bass Islands aquifer in the immediate area of Fermi 3. The water levels were higher in shallow wells and lower in deeper wells. As noted previously in [Subsection 2.4.12.2.3.2.2,](#page-46-0) water level elevations in piezometer EB/TSC-C2 (where the effective interval monitored is centered at approximately elevation 166.5 m [543 ft] NAVD 88) were over 1.2 m (4 ft) higher than elevations in nearby piezometers CB-C5 and P-385D (where the effective interval monitored is centered at approximately elevation 153.9 m [505 ft] NAVD 88), providing evidence of downward gradient within the Bass Islands aquifer. For reference, [Figure](#page-193-0) [2.4-257](#page-193-0) displays monitored intervals for the monitoring wells and piezometers. The figure also provides the locations of the monitored interval relative to the Bass Islands Group and Salina Group – Unit F.

In addition, heat pulse data was collected during geophysical logging of geotechnical borings RB-C8 and TB-C5, and hydrogeologic borings MW-384 D, P-385 D, P-398 D, and P-399 D. Heat pulse data in P-384 D and P-385 D indicate downward flow *within* the Bass Islands aquifer. Data from the other borings where heat pulse readings were recorded indicate downward flow from the Bass Islands aquifer into the Salina Group.

## 2.4.12.2.3.2.5 **Temporal Groundwater Trends**

Reeves documented the water level declines in Monroe County from 1991-2001. The USGS well database was queried for well data that provides up to date water level data in Monroe County. Water level maps for 1991 and 2008 are described in [Subsection 2.4.12.2.3.1](#page-40-0). This section presents temporal groundwater trends in Monroe County.

[Figure 2.4-251](#page-187-0) ([Reference 2.4-278\)](#page-85-6) displays hydrographs for selected Monroe County monitoring wells for the years 1991 through 2008. Several different temporal trends are evident across the county from these hydrographs.

Well G-28, located in the area of regional inflow in the southwest corner of the county, displays no long-term decline evident in the water level hydrograph. This well displays large seasonal fluctuations in water level (up to 12 m [40 ft] in some years), but displays no long-term declines since 1991.

Well G-33, located in the southeast corner of the county in an area of groundwater discharge to Lake Erie, also shows stable water levels over the period, indicating no water level declines with time. Seasonal fluctuations in this well are small by comparison, only about 1.2 m (4 ft).

Wells G-8 and G-12 hydrographs display a declining trend from 1991 to 2003, then rebounding water levels from 2003 until 2008. This pattern appears to be evidence of the operation of nearby quarrying for the first part of the hydrograph, reflected by the declining water levels associated with dewatering. The rising water levels in the second half of these hydrographs reflect rising water levels resulting from the closing of the quarry and cessation of dewatering. London Quarry ceased operations in 2003.

Well G-4, located in the northeast part of the county within the influence of the several quarries, displays a declining trend with no water level recovery evident to date. Operations at quarries in this area continue to the present day.

Well G-17, located just southwest of the City of Monroe, displays the largest water level decline through this time period, with levels dropping nearly 27 m (90 ft) between 1994 and 2002. This well is within the influence of the Dennison Quarry (formerly known as the Hanson Quarry), which is currently operating.

Wells G-14, G-15, and G-16, located west of the Fermi site, all show moderate declines of about 3 to 5 m (10 to 15 ft) since 1991, with no recovery apparent to date. These wells are located approximately midway between the cones of depression associated with the quarries to the north and the Dennison Quarry to the south. The moderate declines in this area may be a combined result from both operations.

# 2.4.12.2.4 **Hydrogeologic Properties of Subsurface Materials**

This section presents data on the hydrogeologic properties of the overburden and the bedrock aquifer subsurface materials beneath the site.

## <span id="page-53-0"></span>2.4.12.2.4.1 **Overburden**

Hydraulic conductivity in the overburden is highly variable. In order to estimate hydraulic conductivities in the overburden, seventeen slug tests ([Reference 2.4-279](#page-85-7)) were performed on thirteen shallow wells or piezometers as part of the site hydrogeologic investigation. Slug tests were performed in the field in June 2007 using electronic transducers to record water levels.

Assumptions for slug test analysis of unconfined strata were as follows:

- Aquifer thickness is equivalent to saturated thickness in the unconfined zone.
- Saturated thickness is equivalent to well depth minus depth to water.
- Screen length from field well completion diagrams and tables were used.
- No "skin effects" due to drilling mud cake on the borehole wall were present.
- Well filter pack porosity was assumed to be 0.3.
- Horizontal to vertical anisotropy ratio was assumed to be 1.

Eleven tests yielded slug test data typical of a damped response to initial displacement, and were analyzed using traditional methods. Slug test data was analyzed using the software Aqtesolv<sup>©</sup> Version 3.0 and Version 4.5 [\(Reference 2.4-280\)](#page-85-8), using the assumptions described previously. Analyses on wells with damped response to initial displacement were performed using two methods for which the fundamental assumptions are valid: the Hvorslev method for unconfined aquifers and the Bouwer-Rice method for unconfined aquifers. The average of these two values was calculated and reported as a representative hydraulic conductivity in the immediate vicinity of the monitoring well/piezometer.

Six of the slug tests were performed on monitoring wells/piezometers screened in the rock fill. Inspection of data for these wells (P-385 S, MW-387 S, MW-390 S, MW-391 S, P-392 S, and P-396 S) indicate that initial displacement was small (on the order of one to several inches) and response nearly instantaneous (one to three seconds). The oscillatory pattern of these data indicate conditions of high hydraulic conductivity, wherein inertial forces of water movement and well bore storage effects may be greater than the forces governing flow in porous media. The

Butler solution method for unconfined aquifers of high hydraulic conductivity was used to analyze these data ([Reference 2.4-280\)](#page-85-8).

Calculated hydraulic conductivity values for the overburden ranged from 0.005 to 9 m/day (0.015 to 20 ft/day) in the glacial materials, and 77 to 541 m/day (251 to 1776 ft/day) in the rock fill. [Table 2.4-232](#page-125-0) provides hydraulic conductivity estimates for the wells screened in the overburden. [Figure 2.4-252](#page-188-0) displays the locations of overburden hydraulic conductivity results on the site map. Slug test data are included in Appendix 2.4CC.

## <span id="page-54-0"></span>2.4.12.2.4.2 **Bass Islands Aquifer**

Estimates of hydraulic conductivity (or the associated parameter transmissivity, which is hydraulic conductivity multiplied by aquifer thickness) within the Bass Islands Group may vary widely with location. In Monroe County, USGS monitoring wells G-29 and G-30 are located in the southern part of the county just over 1.6 km (1 mi) from each other. Their reported transmissivities are 316 and 0.93  $\mathrm{m}^2$ /day (3400 and 10  $ft^2$ /day), respectively, a difference of over two orders of magnitude ([Reference 2.4-261\)](#page-83-0).

Reeves used an estimate of 1.54 m/day (5.0 ft/day) as representative of the Bass Islands Group hydraulic conductivity in the USGS regional groundwater model ([Reference 2.4-261\)](#page-83-0).

A pump test performed south of the site near Stony Point in 1959 yielded hydraulic conductivity estimates of 3.2 and 11 m/day (10.6 and 36.1 ft/day) for two different zones in the bedrock aquifer. One of these zones may have been at least partially in the Salina Group. Estimates for the storage coefficient of the aquifer from these aquifer tests ranged from 4.1 x 10<sup>-5</sup> to 2.5 x 10<sup>-4</sup>. These storativity values are typical of confined aquifer conditions. ([Reference 2.4-281\)](#page-85-9)

To estimate the hydraulic conductivity in the local bedrock aquifer beneath the site, packer tests were performed in boreholes advanced into the Bass Islands Group. Tests were performed at multiple depths in each borehole in zones which were identified from boring logs or geophysical logs as being fractured. Transducers were placed in the target test zone, and also in the zones directly above and below the packers to record piezometric heads and determine if there were any packer leaks or hydraulic connection with zones outside the target zone. Injected water into the test zone of the aquifer was also recorded with time. Packer test analyses are performed using the equation reported in Royle ([Reference 2.4-282\)](#page-86-0):

$$
T = \frac{Q \ln\left(\frac{R}{r_b}\right)}{2\pi P_i}
$$

where:

 $T =$ Transmissivity (ft<sup>2</sup>/day)  $Q =$  Injection flow rate (ft<sup>3</sup>/day)  $R =$  Radius of influence (ft)  $r_b$  = Radius of borehole (ft)

 $P_i$  = Net pressure injection (ft)

and

$$
K = T/b
$$
 [Eq. 7]

where:

 $K = Hy$ draulic conductivity (ft/day)  $T =$ Transmissivity (ft<sup>2</sup>/day)

b = Length of interval tested

Hydraulic conductivity in the Bass Islands Group is highly variable. In general, hydraulic conductivity decreases with depth in this unit. Some packer test data indicated hydraulic connection with zones above or below the zone being tested, thereby violating the assumptions of the analysis. However, these data are included in the presentation of results for the purpose of completeness. If these data are not considered, the average hydraulic conductivity calculated for the Bass Islands zone is 1 m/day (3.28 ft/day). If these data are considered, the average is 2.1 m/day (6.93 ft/day).

A summary table of hydraulic conductivity estimates calculated from packer test analysis results for the boreholes advanced into the Bass Islands Group is presented on [Figure 2.4-253](#page-189-0) and in [Table 2.4-233.](#page-126-0) Packer test data is included in Appendix 2.4DD.

## <span id="page-55-0"></span>2.4.12.2.5 **Potential Reversibility of Ground Water Flow**

On a regional level, the potential exists for reversal of groundwater flow due to the large impact of quarry dewatering on the water levels in Monroe County and surrounding counties. Presently, multiple quarries are operating that significantly impact water levels in the county. Water

[Eq. 6]

levels have declined nearly 27 m (90 ft) southwest of the site, and nearly 12 m (40 ft) to the north of the site. These regional cones of depression may be affecting the current local flow direction, at the site. In other words, the present flow pattern is reversed from the pre-development flow pattern. If the quarries were to stop operating, water levels in the county could potentially recover to the point that the flow direction beneath the site might revert to the natural pre-development patterns.

As stated previously, Fermi 3 operations do not rely on groundwater and therefore have no impact on reversibility.

On a local scale, however, construction of Fermi 3 includes excavation into the Bass Islands Group to build foundations. This activity will require temporary dewatering of the excavation site to levels approximately 14-15 m (45-50 ft) below the present groundwater elevation. This will alter groundwater flow locally near the site. A groundwater model is utilized to estimate the off-site area in the Bass Islands aquifer to experience drawdown resulting from excavation dewatering activities during construction of Fermi 3.

## 2.4.12.2.5.1 **Groundwater Modeling for Excavation Dewatering**

A published 2003 USGS MODFLOW ([Reference 2.4-283](#page-86-3), [Reference 2.4-284](#page-86-2)) regional model was used for this analysis. The original regional model was a steady-state model, and this application is also steady-state. The proprietary software package Groundwater Modeling System Version 6.0 [\(Reference 2.4-285](#page-86-1)) was used for pre- and post-processing.

The active area of the model includes all of Monroe County and parts of six other counties in Michigan and Ohio ([Figure 2.4-239](#page-175-0)). The purpose of the original regional USGS MODFLOW groundwater model is to simulate regional water level declines associated with the increased dewatering activities by the quarrying industry in Monroe County. The purpose of this model application is to evaluate off-site effects of excavation dewatering, including drawdown and flow changes.

The original regional model grid was re-discretized vertically and laterally to provide a finer grid in the excavation area. The original grid is 297 rows x 194 columns x 10 layers. The refined grid consists of 349 rows x 235 columns x 11 layers ([Figure 2.4-254\)](#page-190-0). All physical and hydrogeologic parameters are retained from the regional model. Quarry dewatering in the original regional model was represented using MODFLOW's drain package. This conceptual approach was maintained for the excavation dewatering analysis. The target groundwater elevations during dewatering, represented by the assigned MODFLOW drain elevation, are 1.5 m (5 ft) lower than the excavation bottom elevation. The overlying glacial material will be stripped away.

Two simulations were performed as follows representing two possible approaches to the excavation system combining excavation support and seepage control:

- A reinforced diaphragm concrete wall surrounding the excavation with the interior bedrock below the excavation grouted.
- A grout curtain or freeze wall surrounding the excavation with the interior bedrock below the excavation grouted.

The effects of a pressure grouting program are represented by reducing the hydraulic conductivity of the rock below the excavation from the native value of 1.54 m/day to 0.29 m/day, based on reported results from the Fermi 2 grouting program ([Reference 2.4-286\)](#page-86-4). Diaphragm concrete wall cells are assigned a hydraulic conductivity of 1.0 x  $10^{-7}$  cm/sec  $(8.64 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m/day})$ , a value representative of a hydraulic barrier wall.

[Figure 2.4-255](#page-191-0) and [Figure 2.4-256](#page-192-0) display the 0.305-m (1-ft) drawdown contour for each of the two simulations described, along with the location of registered wells in the Michigan state database. On [Figure 2.4-255,](#page-191-0) which represents the diaphragm concrete wall simulation, the 0.305-m (1-ft) drawdown contour is entirely within the site. On [Figure 2.4-256](#page-192-0), which represents the grout curtain or freeze wall, the 0.305-m (1-ft) drawdown contour is approximately 2,591 m (8500 ft) from due west of the reactor. These results reflect the fact that the second simulation represents less restrictive barrier conditions (grout curtain or freeze wall) than the first simulation (with perimeter diaphragm concrete wall).

Drawdown of this magnitude in the bedrock aquifer should not impact water levels in the onsite wetlands. The wetlands are hydraulically connected to Lake Erie via culverts, so the lake level will control wetland water levels at the site.

## 2.4.12.2.6 **Potential Recharge Areas Within Influence of Plant**

As discussed during presentation of the site water level data in [Subsection 2.4.12.2.3.2.2](#page-46-0), it appears that the Bass Islands aquifer may be receiving recharge from the overlying overflow canal through the

<span id="page-58-0"></span>glacial till. However, there is no onsite use of Bass Islands aquifer groundwater, so there is no significant consequence should this local recharge feature be temporarily affected.

## <span id="page-58-1"></span>2.4.12.3 **Subsurface Pathways**

This subsection presents an evaluation of subsurface pathways for a release at Fermi 3 to the groundwater. The subsection focuses on advective groundwater flow.

#### <span id="page-58-2"></span>2.4.12.3.1 **Potential Contaminant Pathways**

As discussed in [Subsection 2.4.12.1.1](#page-32-0), the geology beneath the site consists of native glacial deposits and imported fill, overlying Bass Islands Group dolomite. This subsection discusses possible subsurface pathways in groundwater through the overburden and bedrock.

If a release was to enter the groundwater within the overburden, the water supply receptor for this scenario is considered to be Lake Erie or other contiguous surface water features such as the overflow canal. The distance from the center of the reactor building to the overflow canal is the shortest pathway to a potential receptor. The gradient in the vicinity of Fermi 3 is very low, and as a result may actually display changes in direction during different months. A westward gradient toward the overflow canal is observed during several months, so this pathway is possible. The distance is about 250 m (820 ft).

If a release was to enter the Bass Islands aquifer, potential pathways are considered for the following two conditions:

- The documented present day condition, in which the groundwater flow direction in the Bass Islands aquifer is westward off-site.
- A possible future condition in which the flow direction has returned to flow toward Lake Erie.

The documented groundwater flow direction beneath the Reactor Building is consistently south by southwest, with the flow direction changing to west by northwest as the groundwater flows offsite [\(Figure](#page-184-0) [2.4-248](#page-184-0)). The nearest exposure point offsite along this flow path is household well 58000002901, listed in the state database as a bedrock well with a depth of 22.6 m (74 ft) and use type of household. The well is located immediately west of the corner of Fermi Drive and Toll Road ([Figure 2.4-236\)](#page-172-0). The distance from the Reactor Building to this well is approximately 1450 m (4756 ft) along the flowpath. ([Reference 2.4-274\)](#page-85-2)

<span id="page-59-0"></span>As discussed in [Subsection 2.4.12.2.5](#page-55-0), the possibility exists for a return to flow toward Lake Erie in the Bass Islands aquifer should all quarry dewatering in the county come to a halt. In this case the most direct pathway toward a potential receptor (Lake Erie) is approximately 450 m (1476 ft) to the east. This assumes that Lake Erie and the Bass Islands aquifer are in hydraulic communication at the shoreline, which is a conservative assumption.

## 2.4.12.3.2 **Advective Transport**

Advective transport assumes that any release to the groundwater travels at the same velocity as groundwater flow. The groundwater flow velocity (or seepage velocity) is calculated from the following equation ([Reference 2.4-287\)](#page-86-5):

$$
V = Ki / n_e
$$
 [Eq. 8]

where:

 $V =$  Average linear velocity (ft/day)  $K = Hyd$ raulic Conductivity (ft/day)  $i =$  Hydraulic gradient (ft/ft)  $n_e$  = Effective porosity (dimensionless)

The travel time from the source to the receptor is calculated by:

$$
T = D/V
$$
 [Eq. 9]

where:

 $T =$ Travel time (days)

D = Distance from source to receptor (ft).

 $V =$  Average linear groundwater velocity (ft/day)

Groundwater velocity is locally dependent on hydraulic conductivity, hydraulic gradient, and porosity. Hydraulic conductivity is estimated from slug test and packer test data collected during the Fermi subsurface investigation, and is discussed in [Subsection 2.4.12.2.4.1](#page-53-0) and [Subsection 2.4.12.2.4.2](#page-54-0). Hydraulic gradient is estimated from Fermi 3 potentiometric surface maps (November water level maps were selected as being representative of site conditions). No porosity field data was collected , so literature values were used. Seepage velocity calculations were performed using the high and low range estimates of porosity (10-25 percent for glacial till, 25 percent for rock fill, 1-20 percent for limestone/dolomite) to bracket the range of possible results ([Reference 2.4-287,](#page-86-5) [Reference 2.4-288\)](#page-86-6).

For a direct release to the rock fill overburden at Fermi 3, the following conditions are assumed. Hydraulic conductivity is 357 m/day (1170 ft/day) based on the P-385S slug test. The gradient is 0.0007, based on the November water table map (Appendix 2.4BB), and porosity is 25 percent for the rock fill. This results in a calculated flow velocity of 0.996 m/day (3.27 ft/day). Applying this velocity to the pathway distance of 250 m (820 ft) to the overflow canal, the travel time is calculated to be 0.69 years (250 days). This assumes instantaneous delivery to the water table (i.e., no time to travel through the vadose zone from the surface).

For a direct release to the Bass Islands aquifer under present day potentiometric surface conditions, the following conditions are assumed:

- The average gradient along the flowpath from Fermi 3 to the point that it leaves the site to the west is 0.002.
- Porosity is assumed to be one percent, the most conservative estimate.

The highest hydraulic conductivity estimate for a packer test that did not indicate vertical leakage to adjacent zones was 5.4 m/day (17.57 ft/day) (MW-395D at 11 m (37 ft): it should be noted that this boring is near the cooling towers, not along the flowpath). The lowest hydraulic conductivity for a valid packer test is 0.034 m/day (0.11 ft/day) (MW-383D at 20 m [67 ft]). Based on the maximum hydraulic conductivity estimate, the calculated velocity is 1.1 m/day (3.5 ft/day). Based on the minimum hydraulic conductivity estimate, the calculated velocity is 0.006 m/day (0.02 ft/day). Based on a pathway distance of 1450 m (4756 ft), the two velocity estimates yield travel time estimates along this pathway to the offsite well west of the site ranging from 3.7 years to 652 years.

To evaluate the pre-development groundwater flow gradient, [Figure](#page-175-0) [2.4-239](#page-175-0) was reviewed and an eastward gradient of 0.001 was estimated near the Fermi plant. For a direct release to the Bass Islands formation under pre-development conditions with this gradient and the range of hydraulic conductivities discussed in the previous paragraph, calculated groundwater velocities range from 0.003 to 0.5 m/day (0.01 to 1.76 ft/day). Based on this range of velocities, the estimated travel time for the 1476-ft pathway east to Lake Erie ranges from 2.3 years to 368 years.

## 2.4.12.4 **Groundwater Monitoring**

A limited groundwater level monitoring program at Fermi 2 is currently performed as part of the Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program (REMP). Fermi 2 has four groundwater wells included in its REMP which are monitored monthly for water levels and sampled quarterly for the radionuclides and sensitivities specified in the Offsite Dose Calculation Manual (ODCM) ([Reference 2.4-289\)](#page-86-7).

In addition, 16 groundwater monitoring wells have been installed around Fermi 1 in support of decommissioning activities. These are also sampled on a quarterly basis with samples assayed for tritium and gamma emitters for the sensitivities specified in the Fermi 2 ODCM.

Some of the existing Fermi 3 piezometers will be abandoned prior to construction activities due to anticipated earth work and heavy construction requirements. It is not anticipated that this will affect any future groundwater monitoring program. **[START COM 2.4-12-001]** However, prior to the commencement of construction activities, the monitoring well network will be evaluated to determine if any significant data gaps are created by the abandonment of existing wells.

As part of the detailed design for Fermi 3, the present groundwater monitoring programs will be evaluated with respect to the addition of Fermi 3 to determine if any modification of the existing programs is required to adequately monitor plant effects on the groundwater. **[END COM 2.4-12-001]** As mentioned previously, several wells exist on-site from previous projects and investigations. It may be possible to integrate some of these wells into future monitoring activities. Any revised integrated monitoring plan will adhere to the guidance outlined in "Integrated Ground-Water Monitoring Strategy for NRC-Licensed Facilities and Sites: Logic, Strategic Approach and Discussion" ([Reference 2.4-290\)](#page-86-8). Possible components of monitoring plans to be evaluated may include the following for both the overburden and the Bass Islands aquifer.

- Construction Groundwater Monitoring
	- § During construction dewatering, piezometers are monitored as needed to evaluate drawdown of overburden and bedrock groundwater levels associated with dewatering. Detroit Edison will use Fermi 3 wells or piezometers, as appropriate. Monitoring is performed at frequent intervals when construction dewatering begins, in order to document water level declines. Monitoring frequency is reduced after dewatering levels have stabilized.
- § Post construction dewatering: Monitor shallow and bedrock piezometers and monitoring wells monthly to establish groundwater flow patterns with Fermi 3 in-place. Use dewatering piezometers and Fermi 3 monitoring wells and piezometers, as appropriate.
- Pre-operational Groundwater Monitoring:
	- § Two monitoring well nests, one upgradient and one downgradient of Fermi 3, are established. The monitoring well nest locations are based on the post dewatering flow patterns. If existing wells are insufficient, new wells may be installed.
	- § One set of groundwater samples is collected from each of the Fermi 3 upgradient and downgradient locations. The water samples are analyzed for radionuclides and sensitivities specified in the ODCM. These results are used to characterize background water quality.
	- § Measure groundwater levels monthly. Use dewatering piezometers and Fermi 3 piezometers, as appropriate.
- Operational Groundwater Monitoring:
	- § Measure groundwater levels quarterly. Use new upgradient and downgradient monitoring locations, dewatering piezometers, and Fermi 3 hydrogeology monitoring locations, as appropriate.
	- § Groundwater samples are collected quarterly for radionuclide monitoring (REMP). Samples are collected from upgradient and downgradient wells of Fermi 3, and existing REMP wells included in the current Fermi 2 monitoring program. The water samples are analyzed for radionuclides and sensitivities specified in the ODCM.
- Operational Groundwater Accident Monitoring.
	- § This is triggered in the event of an accidental liquid release from Fermi 3, and includes monthly groundwater sampling of the upgradient well and selected wells located downgradient from the point of release. Wells are selected based on flow directions documented in the most recent water

level maps available for the site. The water samples are analyzed for radionuclides and sensitivities specified in the ODCM.

Safeguards will be implemented to minimize the possibility of adverse impacts to groundwater due to construction and operation of Fermi 3. Such safeguards would include typical Best Management Practices (BMPs) for storage, handling, and conveyance of hazardous materials, such as appropriate containment areas around storage tanks, emergency cleanup procedures in the event of surface contaminant spills, secure hazardous materials storage areas, etc.

#### 2.4.12.5 **Design Basis for Subsurface Hydrostatic Loadings**

The DCD requires the groundwater level to be 0.6 m (2 ft) below plant grade, as specified in [DCD Table 2.0-1](#page-8-0). A detailed discussion of the geotechnical aspects of hydrostatic loading is presented in Subsection 2.5.4.10.3.

The maximum historical high groundwater level under non-flood conditions applicable to calculate subsurface hydrostatic loadings for Fermi 3 structures is 175.6 m (576.11 ft) NAVD 88, recorded at well MW-7 at the site of the Fermi 2 Combustion Turbine Peaking Units on January 17, 2001. This is greater than 0.6 m (2 ft) below the present site grade of approximately 176.9 m (580.3 ft) NAVD 88 and the Fermi 3 plant grade of 179.6 m (589.3 ft) NAVD 88, and therefore meets the DCD requirements.

During the Probable Maximum Flood (PMF), the flood level onsite is 178.4 m (585.4 ft) NAVD 88. Rock fill used to establish the existing and future site grade is characterized by a high hydraulic conductivity, as documented in [Subsection 2.4.12.2.4.1](#page-53-0), and thus groundwater elevations are capable of being raised during the design basis PMF due to the infiltration of surface water. Therefore, the Fermi 3 design groundwater level for hydrostatic loading is equal to the design basis PMF elevation ([Subsection 2.4.5.2.2.2\)](#page-21-0). The site grade is at elevation 179.6 m (589.3 ft) NAVD 88, almost 1.2 m (4 ft) higher than the 178.4 m (585.4 ft) elevation. Seismic events will not affect the design groundwater level.

#### <span id="page-64-0"></span>**EF3 COL 2.0-24-A** 2.4.13 **Accidental Releases of Liquid Effluents to Ground and Surface Waters**

Mitigating design features specified in NUREG 0800 Branch Technical Position (BTP) 11-6 are incorporated into the design of Fermi 3 to preclude an accidental release of liquid effluents. Descriptions of these features are provided below.

Below-grade tanks containing radioactivity are located on levels B1F and B2F of the Radwaste Building. The Radwaste Building is designed to seismic requirements as specified in [DCD Table 3.2-1](#page-69-0). In addition, as described in [DCD Section 11.2.2.3,](#page-26-0) compartments containing high level liquid radwaste are steel lined up to a height capable of containing the release of all liquid radwaste in the compartment. Leaks as a result of major cracks in tanks result in confinement of the liquid radwaste in the compartment and the building sump system for containment in other tanks or emergency tanks. Because of these design capabilities, it is not considered feasible that any major event involving the release of liquid radwaste into these volumes results in the release of these liquids to the groundwater environment via the liquid pathway.

The Condensate Storage Tank (CST), part of the Condensate Storage and Transfer System (CS&TS), is the only above-grade tank that potentially could contain radioactivity outside of containment, the reactor building, or the radwaste building. The CS&TS, described in [DCD](#page-77-0) [Section 9.2.6,](#page-77-0) meets GDC 60 by compliance with RG 1.143, Position C.1.2 for design features provided to control the release of liquid effluents containing radioactive material. The basin surrounding the tank is designed to prevent uncontrolled runoff in the event of a tank failure. The basin volume is sized to contain the total tank capacity. Tank overflow is also collected in this basin. A sump located inside the retention basin has provisions for sampling collected liquids prior to routing them to the Liquid Waste Management System (LWMS) or the storm sewer as per sampling and release requirements. These design features are intended to preclude the release of liquids from the CST to either the ground or surface water environment via the liquid pathway.

The mitigating design features described above demonstrate that the radioactive waste management systems, structures, and components for Fermi 3, as defined in RG 1.143, include features to preclude accidental releases of radionuclides into potential liquid pathways. Nevertheless, an analysis of accidental releases of radioactive liquid effluents in groundwater is performed. Descriptions and results of these analyses are provided herein.

The source term provided in [DCD Table 12.2-13a](#page-58-0), Liquid Waste Management System Equipment Drain Collection Tank Activity, is used in the analysis of an accidental release of liquid effluents from an equipment drain collection tank and the radwaste building structure to the groundwater system. This source term is appropriate because these tanks collect radioactive liquids from various pieces of plant equipment and are upstream of liquid processing by the LWMS.

## 2.4.13.1 **Groundwater Analysis**

The purpose of this section is to provide a [conservative analysis of a](#page-58-0) postulated accidental release of radioactive liquid effluents to the [groundwater at the Fermi 3 site. The accident scenario is described. The](#page-58-0) model used to evaluate radionuclide transport is presented, along with potential pathways of contamination to water users. The radionuclide transport analysis is described, and the results are summarized. The radionuclide concentrations to which a water user might be exposed are compared against the regulatory limits.

# 2.4.13.1.1 **[Accident Scenario](#page-114-0)**

A liquid radwaste tank outside of containment is postulated to rupture with its contents released to the groundwater. The volume of the liquid assumed to be released and the associated radionuclide concentrations were selected to produce an accident scenario that leads to the most adverse contamination of groundwater, or surface water via the groundwater pathway.

Radwaste tanks outside of containment are located on the levels B1F and B2F of the radwaste building as shown on [DCD Figure 1.2-25](#page-114-0). The radwaste tanks having the largest volumes include the three equipment drain collection tanks and the equipment drain sample tank, all in the lowest level, B2F. Each of these tanks has a volume of 140  $m^3$  (37,000 gal) according to [DCD Tables 12.2-13a](#page-58-0) and [12.2-13b](#page-59-0).

Estimates of activity concentrations in various liquid radwaste tanks are provided in [DCD Tables 12.2-13a](#page-58-0) through [12.2-13g.](#page-64-0) Of these tanks, the limiting tank in terms of radionuclide activity is the Equipment Drain Collection Tank, and its activity is provided in [DCD Table 12.2-13a.](#page-58-0)

The accident scenario assumes that one of the equipment drain collection tanks ruptures and its contents are released to the groundwater. Note that this accident scenario is conservative because the radwaste building is seismically designed in accordance with RG 1.143, Class RW-lla, as described in [DCD Section 12.2.1.4.](#page-18-0) Also, the concrete in each tank cubicle is provided with a steel liner, as described in [DCD Section 11.2.2.3,](#page-26-0) to prevent any potential liquid releases to the environment.

## 2.4.13.1.2 **Model**

[Subsection 2.4.12.3](#page-58-1) describes the conceptual model used to evaluate groundwater pathways and transport of contamination in groundwater. This conceptual model is used to evaluate the accidental release of radioactive liquid effluent to groundwater. Key elements and assumptions embodied in this evaluation are described and discussed below.

As indicated above, one of the equipment drain collection tanks is assumed to be the source of the release, with each tank having a capacity of 140  $m^3$  (37,000 gal) and radionuclide concentrations as given in [DCD Table 12.2-13a](#page-58-0). These tanks are located on the lowest level of the radwaste building (level B2F), which has a floor elevation of approximately 540 feet NAVD88 (Figure 2.5.4-204). One of the tanks is postulated to rupture, and 80 percent of the liquid volume (112  $m<sup>3</sup>$  or 29,600 gal) is assumed to be released following the guidance provided in BTP 11-6. Following tank rupture, it is conservatively assumed that a

pathway is created that allows the entire 112  $m<sup>3</sup>$  to enter the groundwater in the Bass Islands aquifer instantaneously.

The assumption of instantaneous release to the groundwater following tank rupture is conservative because it requires failure of the floor drain system, plus it ignores the barriers presented by the basemat concrete and the steel liners incorporated into the tank cubicles of the radwaste building, which is seismically designed. It should also be recognized that level B2F of the radwaste building is well below the water table. Potentiometric surface contour maps presented in [Figure 2.4-247](#page-183-0) through [Figure 2.4-249](#page-185-0) indicate that the ambient water table in the vicinity of the radwaste building is about 567 feet NAVD88, or 27 ft above the radwaste building floor elevation. If the basemat or exterior walls of the radwaste building and associated steel liners were to fail simultaneously, groundwater would flow into the radwaste building, precluding the release of liquid effluents out of the building. Only if the interior of the radwaste building was flooded to a level higher than the surrounding groundwater would there be a pathway for liquid effluents to be released out of the building and to the groundwater. Hence, the assumption of an accidental release of liquid effluents from the radwaste building to groundwater is extremely conservative, given the design features of the radwaste building intended to prevent an accidental release and the hydrogeologic conditions at the site.

With the postulated instantaneous release of the contents of an equipment drain collection tank to groundwater, radionuclides enter the Bass Islands aquifer and migrate with the groundwater in the direction of decreasing hydraulic head. [Subsection 2.4.12.3.1](#page-58-2) describes potential pathways in the bedrock (Bass Islands aquifer). As described in [Subsection 2.4.12.3.1](#page-58-2) there are two potential pathways for groundwater:

- The documented present day condition, in which the groundwater flow direction in the Bass Islands aquifer is westward off-site.
- A possible future condition in which the flow direction reverses and is toward Lake Erie.

The present day condition is attributed to dewatering associated with quarrying operations westward of the site. The possible future reversal is intended to account for the case where the quarrying operations ceased. For the purposes of this evaluation, both potential flow paths are considered. For each potential flow path, the flow path is assumed to be a straight line between the radwaste building and the receptor. To the westward off-site, the assumed receptor is a well. To the east, the receptor is Lake Erie. Additional analysis conservatism exists in that no credit is taken for dilution either in route to or at the receptor.

#### 2.4.13.1.3 **Radionuclide Transport Analysis**

The radionuclide transport analysis is conducted using conservative assumptions and coefficients, to estimate the radionuclide concentrations that might expose existing and future water users based on an instantaneous release of the radioactive liquid from an equipment drain collection tank.

Radionuclide concentrations resulting from the analysis are compared against the effluent concentration limits (ECLs) identified in 10 CFR 20, Appendix B, Table 2, Column 2, to determine acceptability. It is noted that using the ECLs identified in 10 CFR 20, Appendix B, Table 2, is conservative as (per 10 CFR 20, Appendix B) "the concentration values given in Columns 1 and 2 of Table 2 are equivalent to the radionuclide concentrations which, if inhaled or ingested continuously over the course of a year, would produce a total effective dose equivalent of 0.05 rem (50 millirem or 0.5 millisieverts)." In the case of this postulated release of the radioactive liquid to the groundwater at the Fermi site, it is not expected that the radioactivity will be present at the receptor continuously over the course of the year. As the radioactivity reaches the receptor, it is flowing either in the lake water (for the postulated release eastward to Lake Erie) or in the groundwater (postulated release westward off-site). This flow mechanism does not simply cease at the receptor, but would continue to flow past the receptor.

This analysis accounts for the parent radionuclides assumed present in the radwaste tank plus progeny radionuclides that are generated <span id="page-69-0"></span>subsequently during transport. The analysis considered all progeny in the decay chain sequences that are important for dosimetric purposes. [Reference 2.4-291](#page-86-9) and [Reference 2.4-292](#page-86-10) were used to identify the member for which the decay chain sequence can be truncated. For some of the radionuclides assumed present in an equipment drain collection, consideration of up to three members of the decay chain sequence was required. The derivation of the equations governing the transport of the parent and progeny radionuclides follows.

Transport of the parent radionuclide along a groundwater pathline is governed by the advection-dispersion-reaction equation, which is given as:

$$
R\frac{\partial C}{\partial t} = D\frac{\partial^2 C}{\partial x^2} - v\frac{\partial C}{\partial x} - \lambda RC
$$
 (1)

where:  $C =$  radionuclide concentration;  $R =$  retardation factor;  $D =$ coefficient of longitudinal hydrodynamic dispersion; v = average linear velocity; and  $\lambda$  = radioactive decay constant. The retardation factor is defined from the relationship:

$$
R = 1 + \frac{\rho_b K_d}{n_e} \tag{2}
$$

where:  $p_b$  = bulk density; K<sub>d</sub> = distribution coefficient; and n<sub>e</sub> = effective porosity. The average linear velocity is determined using Darcy's law, which is:

$$
v = -\frac{K}{n_e} \frac{dh}{dx} \tag{3}
$$

where:  $K =$  hydraulic conductivity; and dh/dx = hydraulic gradient. The radioactive decay constant can be written as:

$$
\lambda = \frac{\ln 2}{t_{1/2}}\tag{4}
$$

where:  $t_{1/2}$  = radionuclide half-life. Using the method of characteristics approach in [Reference 2.4-293](#page-87-0), the material derivative of concentration can be written as:

$$
\frac{dC}{dt} = \frac{\partial C}{\partial t} + \frac{dx}{dt} \frac{\partial C}{\partial x}
$$
(5)

Conservatively neglecting hydrodynamic dispersion, the characteristic equations for Equation (1) can be expressed as follows:

$$
\frac{dC}{dt} = -\lambda C\tag{6}
$$

$$
\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{v}{R}\tag{7}
$$

The solutions of the system of equations comprising Equation (6) and Equation (7) can be obtained by integration to yield the characteristic curves of Equation (1). For the parent radionuclide, the equations representing the characteristic curves can be obtained as:

$$
C_1 = C_{10} \exp(-\lambda_1 t)
$$
\n
$$
t = R_1 L / v
$$
\n(8)

where:  $C_1$  = concentration of the parent radionuclide;  $C_{10}$  = initial concentration of the parent radionuclide;  $\lambda_1$  = radioactive decay constant for the parent radionuclide;  $R_1$  = retardation factor for the parent radionuclide; and  $L =$  groundwater pathline length.

Similar relationships exist for progeny radionuclides. For the first progeny in the decay chain, the advection-dispersion-reaction equation is:

$$
R_2 \frac{\partial C_2}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 C_2}{\partial x^2} - v \frac{\partial C_2}{\partial x} + d_{12} \lambda_1 R_1 C_1 - \lambda_2 R_2 C_2
$$
(10)

where: subscript 2 denotes the first progeny radionuclide; and  $d_{12}$  = fraction of parent radionuclide transitions that result in production of first progeny radionuclide. The characteristic equations for Equation (10), again conservatively neglecting hydrodynamic dispersion, can be derived as:

$$
\frac{dC_2}{dt} = d_{12}\lambda_1 C_1 - \lambda_2 C_2 \tag{11}
$$

$$
\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{v}{R_2} \tag{12}
$$

Where:  $\lambda'_1 = \lambda_1 R_1/R_2$ . Recognizing that Equation (11) is formally similar to Equation B.43 of [Reference 2.4-292,](#page-86-10) these equations can be integrated to yield:

(14)

$$
C_2 = K_1 \exp(-\lambda_1 t) + K_2 \exp(-\lambda_2 t)
$$
\n
$$
t = R_2 L / v
$$
\n(14)

For which:

$$
K_1 = \frac{d_{12} \lambda_2 C_{10}}{\lambda_2 - \lambda_1'}
$$
  

$$
K_2 = C_{20} - \frac{d_{12} \lambda_2 C_{10}}{\lambda_2 - \lambda_1'}
$$

The advection-dispersion-reaction equation for the second progeny in the decay chain is:
$$
R_3 \frac{\partial C_3}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 C_3}{\partial x^2} - v \frac{\partial C_3}{\partial x} + d_{13} \lambda_1 R_1 C_1 + d_{23} \lambda_2 R_2 C_2 - \lambda_3 R_3 C_3
$$
\n(15)

where: subscript 3 denotes the second progeny radionuclide;  $d_{13}$  = fraction of parent radionuclide transitions that result in production of second progeny radionuclide; and  $d_{23}$  = fraction of first progeny radionuclide transitions that result in production of second progeny radionuclide. The characteristic equations for Equation (15), again conservatively neglecting hydrodynamic dispersion, can be derived as

$$
\frac{dC_3}{dt} = d_{13} \lambda_1 C_1 + d_{23} \lambda_2 C_2 - \lambda_3 C_3
$$
\n
$$
\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{v}{R_3}
$$
\n(16)

where:  $\lambda'_1 = \lambda_1 R_1/R_3$ ; and  $\lambda'_2 = \lambda_2 R_2/R_3$ . Considering the formal similarity of Equation (16) to Equation B.54 of [Reference 2.4-292,](#page-86-0) Equation (16) and Equation (17) can be integrated to yield:

$$
C_3 = K_1 \exp(-\lambda_1 t) + K_2 \exp(-\lambda_2 t) + K_3 \exp(-\lambda_3 t) \tag{18}
$$
  

$$
t = R_3 L/v \tag{19}
$$

For which:

$$
K_{1} = \frac{d_{13}\lambda_{3}C_{10}}{\lambda_{3} - \lambda_{1}^{'} + \frac{d_{23}\lambda_{2}^{'}d_{12}\lambda_{3}C_{10}}{(\lambda_{3} - \lambda_{1}^{'})(\lambda_{2}^{'} - \lambda_{1}^{'} )}
$$
  
\n
$$
K_{2} = \frac{d_{23}\lambda_{3}C_{20}}{\lambda_{3} - \lambda_{2}^{'} + \frac{d_{23}\lambda_{2}^{'}d_{12}\lambda_{3}C_{10}}{(\lambda_{3} - \lambda_{2}^{'})(\lambda_{2}^{'} - \lambda_{1}^{'} )}
$$
  
\n
$$
K_{3} = C_{30} - \frac{d_{13}\lambda_{3}C_{10}}{\lambda_{3} - \lambda_{1}^{'} - \frac{d_{23}\lambda_{3}C_{20}}{\lambda_{3} - \lambda_{2}^{'} + \frac{d_{23}\lambda_{2}^{'}d_{12}\lambda_{3}C_{10}}{(\lambda_{3} - \lambda_{1}^{'})(\lambda_{3} - \lambda_{2}^{'} )}
$$

To estimate the radionuclide concentrations in groundwater discharging to the receptor, Equation (8), Equation (13), and Equation (18) were applied as appropriate along the groundwater pathline that would originate at the radwaste building and terminate at the receptor.

## a.**Transport Considering Radioactive Decay Only**

This analysis is conservatively performed considering radioactive decay only. This analysis also conservatively assumes that all radionuclides migrate at the same rate as groundwater and considers no adsorption and retardation, which would otherwise result in lower radionuclide concentrations at the receptors. The concentrations of the radionuclides assumed to be released from an equipment drain collection tank are decayed for a period equal to the groundwater travel time from the point of release to the receptor, using Equation (8), Equation (13), or Equation (18) as appropriate with  $R_1 = R_2 = R_3 = 1$ .

As discussed above, per Equation (2), the Retardation Factor (R) is a function of the material properties. As discussed in Subsection 2.5.1.2.4.3, the Bass Islands formation is highly fractured with a variable frequency of fracturing. During the on-site investigation, some of the fractures were observed to be filled, while others had no filling. Groundwater travel through the Bass Islands aquifer would follow the open fractures as this provides the path of least resistance. Flow through the open fractures would also provide the lower values for distribution coefficients and retardation factors. Literature values for distribution coefficients that would conservatively represent the conditions at the site were not identified. Due to the presence of the fractures, testing methods are considered to be limited in their capability to represent the subsurface conditions. Thus, overall, determination of values for distribution coefficients accounting for the fractures in the Bass Islands aquifer may introduce a level of uncertainty to the results. In order to bound potential uncertainties, a value of Kd is used that results in a value of one (1) for the Retardation Factors (Equation (2)).

Evaluating transport considering radioactive decay only, requires an estimate of the groundwater travel time. In [Subsection 2.4.12.3.2](#page-59-0) the groundwater travel time between the radwaste building and the two possible receptors is estimated based on site-specific hydrogeologic characteristics. [Table 2.4-234](#page-128-0) summarizes the pertinent results from [Subsection 2.4.12.3.2.](#page-59-0) Maximum flow velocities from [Subsection 2.4.12.3.2](#page-59-0), as reflected in [Table 2.4-234](#page-128-0), are used to provide bounding results.

Using Equation (8), Equation (13), or Equation (18) as appropriate with R = 1, the initial concentrations were decayed over the travel times reflected in [Table 2.4-234](#page-128-0) for both potential flow paths. Radioactive decay data and decay chain specifications were taken from NUREG/CR-5512, Vol. 1, Table E.1 [\(Reference 2.4-292](#page-86-0)*)*. Radioactive decay data for some of the shorter-lived radionuclides were obtained from [Reference 2.4-291](#page-86-1). Table 2.4-235 and Table 2.4-236 summarize the results and identify those radionuclides for which the ratio of groundwater concentration to ECL would exceed 1 (i.e., unity). These radionuclides are H-3, Mn-54, Fe-55, Co-60, Zn-65, Sr-90, Y-90, Ru-106, Ag-110m, Cs-134, Cs-137 and Ce-144.

## 2.4.13.1.4 **Comparison with 10 CFR 20 ECL**

The radionuclide transport analysis presented in [Subsection 2.4.13.1.3](#page-68-0) indicates that several of the radionuclides included in the evaluation could exceed their corresponding ECL for the conservative conditions modeled.

It is recognized that 10 CFR 20, Appendix B, Table 2, imposes additional requirements when the identity and concentration of each radionuclide in a mixture are known. In this case, the ratio present in the mixture and the concentration otherwise established in 10 CFR 20, Appendix B for the specific radionuclide not in a mixture must be determined. The sum of such ratios for all of the radionuclides in the mixture may not exceed "1" (i.e., "unity"). Given that several of the radionuclides exceed their

corresponding ECL, the sum of all of the ratios would also be greater than unity.

As described above, this analysis is based on multiple conservatisms that are used to provide a bounding result. To summarize, these conservatisms are as follows.

- The assumption that the tank ruptures is considered to be very conservative. Minor tank leakage would be expected to occur prior to a significant leak occurring. Plant operators would be alerted to leakage during walkdowns and would take actions to mitigate the impacts from such leakage. As described in [DCD Section 15.3.16.1,](#page-270-0) a liquid radwaste release caused by operator error is also considered a remote possibility. Operating techniques and administrative procedures emphasize detailed system and equipment operating instructions. A positive action interlock system is also provided to prevent inadvertent opening of a drain valve.
- The radwaste building is designed to seismic requirements as specified in [DCD Table 3.2-1.](#page-69-0) The compartments that contain these tanks are steel lined up to a height capable of containing the release of all liquid radwaste in the tank. This design and additional barrier are not credited in the analysis.
- The poteniometric head is approximately 27 ft above the radwaste building floor elevation. Thus, if leakage should occur due to a crack in the building floor or wall, it would be expected that the leakage would be into the building and not out of the building. These hydrogeologic conditions are not credited in the analysis.
- The analysis is based on the maximum groundwater flow velocity based on [Subsection 2.4.12.](#page-31-0) Using the maximum groundwater flow velocity results in the minimum decay time and thus the maximum radionuclide concentrations.
- For the postulated release to Lake Erie, no credit is taken for dilution in the lake water as the release traverses to a drinking water intake. The closest drinking water intake from Lake Erie is more than 1500 meters (4920 feet) to the South. Thus, significant dilution would be expected for the postulated release to Lake Erie. It is noted that this

same dilution factor would not be present for the postulated release westward off-site (i.e., where the receptor is a well).

• The limits (ECLs) to which the groundwater concentrations are compared are conservative as the 10 CFR 20, Appendix B, ECLs are based on continuous ingestion over a year. In this case of this postulated release of the radioactive liquid to the groundwater, it is not expected that the radioactivity will be present continuously over the course of the year.

It is noted that reducing the extent of the analytical conservatisms discussed above (specifically the last three bullets) would not be expected to produce results that are less than the 10 CFR 20, Appendix B, ECLs. Thus, additional measures (as discussed below) are implemented as part of the Fermi 3 design to ensure that the ECLs are not exceeded.

## 2.4.13.5 **Mitigation Measures**

BTP 11-6, Section D, discusses two alternatives for supporting a conclusion that the postulated failure of a tank and its associated components has been evaluated and the design is acceptable and meets the requirements of General Design Criteria 60 and 61 for the control of releases of radioactive materials to the environment and provides an adequate level of safety during normal reactor operation. One alternative for supporting this conclusion is an analysis determining radionuclide concentrations in the applicable failed components and the effect of site hydrology for those systems that have not been provided with special design features to mitigate the effects of failures. As discussed above, such an analysis using conservative inputs and assumptions indicates that the results for some radionuclides are greater than the respective limits.

Per BTP 11-6, a second alternative for supporting a conclusion that the postulated failure of a tank is acceptable and meets the requirements of General Design Criteria 60 and 61 is to provide design features to mitigate the consequences of the postulated tank failure. The Fermi 3

design supports the conclusion that the design features provided are acceptable in mitigating the effects of tank failure involving radioactive liquids. Therefore, based on these design features, a postulated liquid release to the environment at Fermi 3 is mitigated in a manner consistent with regulatory guidance to preclude the possible release.

## **EF3 COL 2.0-25-A** 2.4.14 **Technical Specifications and Emergency Operation Requirements**

The design plant grade elevation for safety-related SSCs is located above the design basis flood level, as stated in [Subsection 2.4.2](#page-6-0), and above the maximum groundwater elevation, as stated in [Subsection 2.4.12.](#page-31-0) Safety-related SSCs for the plant are protected from external floods as discussed in Section 3.4. The elevation of exterior access openings, which are above the PMF and local PMP flood levels, and the design of exterior penetrations below design flood and groundwater levels, which are appropriately sealed, result in a design and site combination that do not necessitate emergency procedures or meet the criteria for Technical Specification LCOs to ensure safety-related functions at the plant.

The plant elevation is also above flood and groundwater elevations for Regulatory Treatment of Non-Safety Systems (RTNSS) SSCs used to provide the makeup water to the UHS (IC/PCCS pools) from 72 hours to 7 days after an accident. The Seismic Category I FWSC SSCs are also protected from external floods. Therefore, no technical specifications or emergency procedures are required to prevent hydrological phenomena from degrading the UHS.

#### 2.4.15 **References**

- 2.4-201 The Great Lakes: An Environmental Atlas and Resource Book. "State of the Great Lakes 2005." November 2005, http://binational.net/solec/English/SOLEC%202004/Tagged% 20PDFs/SOGL%202005%20Report/English%20Version/Lake %20Sections/Lake%20Erie%20-%20tagged.pdf, accessed 7 February 2007.
- 2.4-202 Great Lakes Information Network. 1 November 2006, http://www.great-lakes.net/envt/flora-fauna/people.html, accessed 8 October 2007.
- 2.4-203 National Geophysical Data Center. 7 November, 2007. http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/mgg/greatlakes/greatlakes.html, accessed 26 November 2007.
- 2.4-204 Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory. "Subbasins around Lake Erie, 1948-2005." 5 October 2005, http://www.glerl.noaa.gov/ifyle/data/Model/LBRM/runoff.html, accessed 26 November 2007.
- <span id="page-78-4"></span>2.4-205 Environment Canada and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. "Lake Erie Management Plan (LaMP) Update 2003." http://www.binational.net, accessed 13 December 2007.
- 2.4-206 Morreale, D.J. "A Survey of Current Great Lakes Research." July 2002, http://www.eng.buffalo.edu/glp/articles/review.htm, accessed 2 May 2008.
- 2.4-207 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. 16 February 2007, http://www.lre.usace.army.mil/greatlakes/hh/outflows/current\_ regulated\_outflows, accessed 13 November 2007.
- 2.4-208 The Mackinac Center Report Groundwater Regulation: An Assessment by Russ Harding. April 2005.
- <span id="page-78-0"></span>2.4-209 Great Lakes Commission. "2004 Annual Report of Great Lakes Regional Water Use Database Repository." 13 November 2006, http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,1607,7-135-3313\_3677\_3704 -72931--,00.html, accessed 21 April 2008.
- <span id="page-78-2"></span>2.4-210 Great Lakes Commission. "2003 Annual Report of Great Lakes Regional Water Use Database Repository." 4 October 2006, http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,1607,7-135-3313\_3677\_3704 -72931--,00.html, accessed 21 April 2008.
- <span id="page-78-1"></span>2.4-211 Great Lakes Commission. "2002 Annual Report of Great Lakes Regional Water Use Database Repository." 14 July 2005, http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,1607,7-135-3313\_3677\_3704

-72931--,00.html, accessed 21 April 2008.

<span id="page-78-3"></span>2.4-212 Great Lakes Commission. "2001 Annual Report of Great Lakes Regional Water Use Database Repository." 12 July 2005,

<span id="page-79-3"></span>http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,1607,7-135-3313\_3677\_3704 -72931--,00.html, accessed 21 April 2008.

- <span id="page-79-0"></span>2.4-213 Great Lakes Commission. "2000 Annual Report of Great Lakes Regional Water Use Database Repository." 30 July 2004, http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,1607,7-135-3313\_3677\_3704 -72931--,00.html, accessed 21 April 2008.
- <span id="page-79-4"></span><span id="page-79-2"></span>2.4-214 Great Lakes Commission. "1999 Annual Report of Great Lakes Regional Water Use Database Repository." 13 August 2004, http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,1607,7-135-3313\_3677\_3704 -72931--,00.html, accessed 21 April 2008.
- <span id="page-79-1"></span>2.4-215 Great Lakes Commission. "1998 Annual Report of Great Lakes Regional Water Use Database Repository." 16 August 2002, http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,1607,7-135-3313\_3677\_3704 -72931--,00.html, accessed 21 April 2008.
- 2.4-216 The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,1607,7-135-3313\_3677\_3704 -72931--,00.html, accessed 21 April 2008.
- 2.4-217 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District Corps of Engineers. "Monthly Bulletin of Lake Levels For The Great Lakes." December 2006 through November 2007.
- 2.4-218 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. "The Great Lakes An Environmental Atlas and Resource Book." 8 March 2006, Chapter 2, http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/atlas/glat-ch2.html, accessed 13 December 2007.
- 2.4-219 Environment Canada and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. "Lake Erie Management Plan (LaMP) Updated 2005." http://www.binational.net, accessed 13 December 2007.
- 2.4-220 Kovacik, T.L. "Information on the Velocity and Flow Pattern of Detroit River Water in Western Lake Erie Revealed by an Accidental Salt Spill." The Ohio Journal of Science, 28 June 1972.
- 2.4-221 The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. "Monroe Water Use 2005." The Michigan Water Use Program.
- 2.4-222 The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. "Monroe Water Use 2006." The Michigan Water Use Program.
- 2.4-223 Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI), ArcGIS Data DVD, Version 9.2, USA and Canada Map Data, 2007.
- 2.4-224 Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. Hydraulic Data Collection and Analysis, Flood Discharge Database, Raisin Watershed, River Raisin (Mouth), 20 December 2007, http://www.deq.state.mi.us/flow/hflow.asp?FileNumber=2007 0540-3, accessed 3 June 2007.
- <span id="page-80-0"></span>2.4-225 GE- Hitachi Nuclear Energy ESBWR Design Control Document Tier 2, Revision 4, September 2007.
- 2.4-226 American National Standard ANSI/ANS-2.8-1992. "Determining Design Basis flooding at Power Reactor Sites." American Nuclear Society, 1992.
- 2.4-227 NOAA National Weather Service. "Hydrometeorological Reports 51, 52, 53, and 54." http://www.nws.noaa.gov/oh/hdsc/studies/pmp.html, accessed 10 March 2008.
- <span id="page-80-1"></span>2.4-228 NOAA Tides and Currents. "Historic Great Lakes Water Level Data." Fermi Power Plant, MI, Extremes, 23 November 2005, http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/data\_menu.shtml?stn=9063 090%20Fermi%20Power%20Plant,%20MI&type=Extremes, accessed 13 June 2008.
- 2.4-229 Hydrology Water Quantity and Quality Control. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, John Wiley & Sons, Inc, 1997.
- 2.4-230 Lindburg, M.R. Civil Engineering Reference Manual for PE Exam - 9th Edition. "Mannings Rougness Coefficient." PE Professional Publications, Inc, Belmont CA, 2003.
- 2.4-231 Lindburg, M.R. Civil Engineering Reference Manual for PE Exam - 9<sup>th</sup> Edition. "Rational Method Run-off C-Coefficient." PE Professional Publications, Inc, Belmont CA, 2003.
- 2.4-232 Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. Hydraulic Data Collection and Analysis, Flood Discharge Database, Huron (Lake) Watershed, Swan Creek (Mouth), 20 December 2007,

http://www.deq.state.mi.us/flow/hflow.asp?FileNumber=2007 0540-1, accessed 3 June 2007.

2.4-233 Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. Hydraulic Data Collection and Analysis, Flood Discharge Database, Stony Creek Watershed, Stony Creek (Mouth), 20 December 2007,

http://www.deq.state.mi.us/flow/hflow.asp?FileNumber=2007 0540-2, accessed 12 June 2007.

- <span id="page-81-0"></span>2.4-234 NOAA Tides and Currents. "Historic Great Lakes Water Level Data." Fermi Power Plant, MI, 23 November 2005, http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/data\_menu.shtml?stn=9063 090%20Fermi%20Power%20Plant,%20MI&type=Historic+Gr eat+Lakes+Water+Level+Data, accessed 13 June 2008.
- <span id="page-81-2"></span>2.4-235 American National Standard ANSI/ANS-2.8-1992. "Determining Design Basis flooding at Power Reactor Sites." American Nuclear Society, 1992.
- <span id="page-81-1"></span>2.4-236 NOAA National Weather Service. "Hydrometeorological Reports 51, 52, and 53." http://www.nws.noaa.gov/oh/hdsc/studies/pmp.html, accessed 10 March 2008.
- 2.4-237 Lindburg, M.R. Civil Engineering Reference Manual for PE Exam - 9<sup>th</sup> Edition. "NRCS Synthetic Unit Hydrograph." PE Professional Publications, Inc, Belmont CA, 2003.
- <span id="page-81-3"></span>2.4-238 Viessman, W. and G. Lewis. Introduction to Hydrology. "Synthetic Unit Hydrographs" 5th edition, Harper Collins College Publishers Hydrology, 1997.
- 2.4-239 Iowa Stormwater Management Manual. "Runoff Hydrograph Determination." Version 1, Section 2C-7, 19 February 2007.
- 2.4-240 Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI), ArcGIS Data DVD, Version 9.2, USA and Canada Map Data, 2007.
- 2.4-241 U.S. Army Corp of Engineers Hydrologic Engineering Center. "HEC-GeoRAS Software." Version 4, approved for public release on September 2005.
- 2.4-242 U.S. Army Corp of Engineers. "HEC-RAS 4.0 Beta Software." 2008.
- 2.4-243 Fang, X., D.B. Thompson, et al. "Time of Concentration Estimated Using Watershed Parameters by Automated and Manual Methods." Document planned to be published by June 2008.
- 2.4-244 Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. Hydraulic Data Collection and Analysis, Flood Discharge Database, Huron (Lake) Watershed, Swan Creek (Mouth), 20 December 2007, http://www.deq.state.mi.us/flow/hflow.asp?FileNumber=2007

0540-1, accessed 3 June 2007.

- 2.4-245 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District, Engineering and Technical Services. 3 May 2006, http://www.lre.usace.army.mil/greatlakes/hh/greatlakeswaterl evels/historicdata/stormprobabilitytables/, accessed 2 October 2007.
- 2.4-246 Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. Hydraulic Data Collection and Analysis, Low Flow Discharge Database, Huron (Lake) Watershed, File No. 6690, Swan Creek, 8 January 2008, http://www.deq.state.mi.us/flow/lflow.asp?FileNumber=6690, accessed 3 June 2007.
- 2.4-247 United States Army Corp Of Engineers, "Current Regulated Outflows, http://www.lre.usace.army.mil/greatlakes/hh/outflows/current\_ regulated\_outflows, accessed 16 February 2008.
- 2.4-248 American Nuclear Society. "Determining Design Basis Flooding at Power Reactor Sites." ANSI/ANS-2.8-1992.
- 2.4-249 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. "Shore Protection Manual". Coastal Engineering Research Center, Waterways Experiment Station, Vicksburg, Mississippi, Fourth Edition, 1984.
- 2.4-250 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. "Coastal Engineering Manual". Engineer Manual 1110-2-1100, 2002.
- 2.4-251 Smith, J.M.; Sherlock A.R. and Resio D.T. "STWAVE: Steady-State Spectral Wave Model User's Manual for STWAVE, Version 3.0. February 2001.
- 2.4-252 NOAA ENC Direct to GIS. http://ocs-spatial.ncd.noaa.gov/website/encdirect/viewer.htm, accessed 20 May 2007.
- 2.4-253 Great Lakes Information Network (GLIN). Regional GIS Data by Topic – Elevation, Lake Erie Bathymetry. http://gis.glin.net/ogc/services.php#lake\_erie\_bathymetry, accessed 20 May 2007.
- 2.4-254 Fisheries and Oceans Canada. Integrated Science Data Management - Tide and Water Level Inventory. http://www.meds-sdmm.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/meds/Databases/TWL /TWL\_inventory\_e.htm, accessed 20 May 2007.
- 2.4-255 NOAA Tides and Currents. http://Tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/olddata, accessed 20 May 2007.
- 2.4-256 Leenknecht, D.A., A. Szuwalski, and A.R. Sherlock. "Automated Coastal Engineering System: Technical Reference." September 1992, Coastal Engineering Research Center, Department of the Army, Vicksburg, MS.
- 2.4-257 Ippen Phd, Arthur T. "Estuary & Coastline Hydrodynamics." Engineering Societies Monographs, 1966.
- 2.4-258 Enrico Fermi, Unit 2 Updated Final Safety Analysis Report, Amendment 14 (November 2006).
- 2.4-259 NOAA Tides and Currents. "Historic Great Lakes Water Level Data." Fermi Power Plant, MI, Extremes, 23 November 2005, http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/data\_menu.shtml?stn=9063 090%20Fermi%20Power%20Plant,%20MI&type=Extremes, accessed 13 June 2008.
- 2.4-260 NOAA Tides and Currents. "Historic Great Lakes Water Level Data." Fermi Power Plant, MI, 23 November 2005, http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/data\_menu.shtml?stn=9063 090%20Fermi%20Power%20Plant,%20MI&type=Historic+Gr eat+Lakes+Water+Level+Data, accessed 13 June 2008.
- 2.4-261 Reeves, H.W, K.V. Wright, and J.R. Nicholas, "Hydrogeology and Simulation of Regional Ground-Water-Level Declines in Monroe County, Michigan," U.S. Geological Survey Water-Resources Investigations Report 03-4312, 2004.
- 2.4-262 Detroit Edison, "Fermi Unit 2, Environmental Report," Supplement 5, January 1979.
- 2.4-263 Fenneman, N.M., and D.W. Johnson, "Physical Divisions of the United States [Physiography]," U.S. Department of the Interior, Geological Survey, scale 1:7,000,000, 1946, http://water.usgs.gov/GIS/dsdl/physio.e00.gz, accessed 3 December 2007.
- 2.4-264 U.S. Geological Survey, "Groundwater Atlas of the United States," Segment 9, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin. Hydrologic Investigations Atlas 730-J, Reston, VA, 1992.
- 2.4-265 Casey, G.D., "Hydrogeologic Framework of the Midwestern Basins and Arches Region in Parts of Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, and Illinois", U.S. Geological survey Professional paper 1423-B, 1996.
- <span id="page-84-0"></span>2.4-266 Bugliosi, E.F., "The Midwestern Basins and Arches Regional Aquifer System in Parts of Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, and Illinois; Summary", USGS Professional Paper 1423-A, 1999.
- 2.4-267 "Regional Ground-Water Flow and Geochemistry in the Midwest Basins and Arches Aquifer System in Parts of Indiana, Ohio, Michigan and Illinois", USGS Professional Paper 1423-C, 2000.
- 2.4-268 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, "Designated Sole Source Aquifers in EPA Region 5," http://www.epa.gov/safewater/sourcewater/pubs/qrg\_ssamap reg5.pdf, accessed 20 September 2007.
- 2.4-269 Bryan Municipal Utilities, City of Bryan, "City Submits Petition for Aquifer Protection," (22 October 2007), http://www.cityofbryan.net/PR20071022.asp, accessed 16 November 2007.
- 2.4-270 United States Geological Survey, "Estimated Use of Water in the United States in 2000," USGS Circular 1268, 2005.
- 2.4-271 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, "Safe Drinking Water Information System," database last updated April 15, 2008, http://www.epa.gov/enviro/html/sdwis/sdwis\_query.html, accessed 22 July 2008.
- 2.4-272 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, "EPA Public Drink Water Systems: Facts and Figures," 28 April 2006, http://www.epa.gov/safewater/pws/factoids.html, accessed 29 May 2008.
- 2.4-273 City of Milan, Michigan, "2006 City of Milan Annual Water Quality Report," http://www.ci.milan.mi.us/public\_works/Milan\_Water\_Quality Report 2006.pdf, accessed 20 February 2008.
- 2.4-274 Department of Information Technology, Center for Geographic Information, "Michigan Geographic Data Library,", Michigan Department of Environment Quality , State of Michigan (Well data generated 8 October 2007), http://www.mcgi.state.mi.us/mgdl/, accessed 11 October 2007.
- 2.4-275 Ohio Department of Natural Resources, "Water Well Log," Ground Water Mapping and Technical Services, Division of Water, http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/water/maptechs/wellogs/appNEW/ custom.aspx, accessed 20 September 2007.
- 2.4-276 Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, "Thermoelectric Power Generation Water Use Year 2000," http://www.deq.state.mi.us/documents/deq-wd-wurp-TE2000. pdf, accessed 7 February 2008.
- 2.4-277 Nicholas, J. R.; G.L. Rowe, and J. R. Brannen, "Hydrology, Water Quality, and Effects of Drought in Monroe County, Michigan," Water-Resources Investigations Report 94-4161, 1996.
- 2.4-278 U.S. Geological Survey, "National Water Information System Groundwater Levels for Michigan," http://nwis.waterdata.usgs.gov/mi/nwis/gwlevels, accessed 17 April 2008.
- 2.4-279 Weight, W.D., and J.L. Sonderegger, "Manual of Applied Field Hydrogeology," Slug Testing, Chapter 11, McGraw-Hill, 2001.
- 2.4-280 HydroSOLVE, Inc., "Aqtesolv for Windows User's Guide," Reston, VA, July 24, 2000.
- 2.4-281 Zumberge, J.H., "Report on Pumping Test Analysis, PRDC Property, Monroe, Michigan," unpublished, July 25, 1959.
- 2.4-282 Royle, M., "Standard Operating Procedures for Borehole Packer Testing."
- 2.4-283 McDonald, M., and A. Harbaugh, "A Modular Three-Dimensional Finite-Difference Ground-Water Flow Model," Techniques of Water-Resources Investigations of the United States Geological Survey, Book 6, Chapter A1, 1988.
- 2.4-284 Harbaugh, A.W., E.R. Banta, M.C. Hill, and M.G. McDonald, "MODFLOW-2000, The U.S. Geological Survey Modular Ground-Water Model – User Guide to Modularization Concepts and the Ground-Water Flow Processes," U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 00-92, Reston, Virginia, 2000.
- 2.4-285 Brigham Young University Environmental Modeling Research Laboratory, "Groundwater Modeling System Tutorials," Version 6.0, Vols. I, II, and III, October 20, 2005.
- 2.4-286 Dames & Moore, "Rock Foundation Treatment Residual Heat Removal Complex Fermi II Nuclear Power Plant for the Detroit Edison Company," July 3, 1974.
- 2.4-287 Fetter, C.W., "Applied Hydrogeology," Bell & Howell Co., Columbus, OH, 1980.
- 2.4-288 Driscoll F.G., "Groundwater and Wells," 2nd Edition, Johnson (Well Screen) Division, St. Paul Minnesota, 1986.
- 2.4-289 Detroit Edison, "Fermi 2, Offsite Dose Calculation Manual," Revision 14, 1999.
- 2.4-290 U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, "Integrated Ground-Water Monitoring Strategy for NRC-Licensed Facilities and Sites: Logic, Strategic Approach and Discussion," Advanced Environmental Solutions LLC for Division of Fuel, Engineering, and Radiological Research, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, NUREG/CR-6948, November 2007.
- <span id="page-86-1"></span>2.4-291 National Nuclear Data Center, http://www.nndc.bnl.gov/mird/, accessed November 6, 2008.
- <span id="page-86-0"></span>2.4-292 NUREG/CR-5512, Volume 1, Residual Radioactive Contamination from Decommissioning.

2.4-293 Konikow, L. F., and J. D. Bredehoeft, Computer Model of Two-Dimensional Solute Transport and Dispersion in Ground Water, Chapter C2, Book 7, Techniques of Water-Resources Investigations of the United States Geological Survey, 1978.

### **Table 2.4-201 2004 Water Usage - Withdrawal and Consumptive Uses for Lake Erie COL 2.0-12-A]**





The totals represent withdrawals and consumption for the state of Indiana, Michigan, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and the province of Ontario, Canada

**Consumptive use**: that portion of water withdrawn or withheld from the Great Lakes basin and assumed to be lost or otherwise not returned to the Great Lakes basin due to evapotranspiration, incorporation into products, or other processes

**Great Lakes surface water (GLSW):** the Great Lakes, their connecting channels(the St. Clair River, the Detroit River, the Niagara River and the St. Marys River), and the St. Lawrence River **Groundwater (GW):** all subsurface water

**Other surface water (OSW):** tributary streams, lakes, ponds, and reservoirs within the Great Lakes basin **Interbasin diversion (positive):** water transferred from the Great Lakes basin into another watershed **Interbasin diversion (negative):** water transferred from another watershed into the Great Lakes basin **Intrabasin diversion (positive):** water transferred out of one Great Lakes watershed into another **Intrabasin diversion (negative):** water transferred into of one Great Lakes watershed into from another

### **Table 2.4-202 2003 Summary Report and 2002 Basin Report for Lake Erie Water Usage** [EF3 COL 2.0-12-A]

## **Units: Mgal (US)/d Year of Data: 2003**

#### **SUMMARY REPORT – GREAT LAKES BASIN**







Source: [Reference 2.4-210](#page-78-2), [Reference 2.4-211](#page-78-1)

 $\overline{\phantom{a}}$ 

## **Table 2.4-203 2001 and 2000 Basin Water Usage Report for Lake Erie** [EF3 COL 2.0-12-A]





Hydroelectric Power 38407.00 0.00 0.00 38407.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 Other 0.82 9.10 2.72 12.64 5105.39 -9.61 0.00



Source: [Reference 2.4-212](#page-78-3), [Reference 2.4-213](#page-79-0)

 $\overline{\phantom{a}}$ 

## **Table 2.4-204 1999 and 1998 Basin Water Usage Report for Lake Erie** [EF3 COL 2.0-12-A]



**BASIN REPORT – Lake Erie Basin Totals** 

**Year of Data: 1998**



Source: [Reference 2.4-214](#page-79-2), [Reference 2.4-215](#page-79-1)

# **Table 2.4-205 Monroe County Water Usage (2000 – 2006) (Sheet 1 of 2)** [EF3 COL 2.0-12-A] |



## **Table 2.4-205 Monroe County Water Usage (2000 – 2006) (Sheet 2 of 2) [EF3 COL 2.0-12-A] |**





MGD = million gallons per day

# **Table 2.4-206 2005 Monroe County Report** [EF3 COL 2.0-12-A]





Mgal = million gallons

# **Table 2.4-207 2006 Monroe County Report** [EF3 COL 2.0-12-A]







Mgal = million gallons

## **Table 2.4-208 2006 Monroe County Water Capacity Report** [EF3 COL 2.0-12-A]



MGD = million gallons per day

GPM = gallons per minute

Source: <del>Reference</del> 2.4-222

## **Table 2.4-209 ••• Net Basin Supply for Lake Erie <b>1998** *Net Algermany Supply for Lake Erie* **1998** *COL 2.0-12-A]*

#### **Yearly Lake Erie Net Basin Supply Averaged from 1948-2005**

#### **Component Method using overland precipitation depth (precipitation + runoff - evaporation) (m3/sec)**



#### **Yearly Lake Erie Net Basin Supply Averaged from 1948-2005**



#### **Yearly Inflow for Lake Erie for 2005( Detroit River via Upper Great Lakes and Tributaries) (expressed as m3/sec)**



### **Table 2.4-210 Extreme Monthly Lake Levels for the Western Basin of Lake Erie at the Fermi Site (ID 9063090) (Sheet 1 of 2)** [EF3 COL 2.0-13-A]



### **Table 2.4-210 Extreme Monthly Lake Levels for the Western Basin of Lake Erie at the Fermi Site (ID 9063090) (Sheet 2 of 2)** [EF3 COL 2.0-13-A]



\* The lowest elevation recorded was noted on a Nuclear Generation Memorandum

NP-00-0064 dated August 16, 2000. Elevation has been confirmed by NOAA on 02/07/2008

Source: [Reference 2.4-228](#page-80-1), [Reference 2.4-234](#page-81-0)

#### Table 2.4-211 **Table 2.4-211 Local Intense PMP Depth Duration** *[EF3 COL 2.0-13-A]* **|**



#### Table 2.4-212 **Table 2.4-212 Discharge (Q) from Existing Locations Calculated with the Rational Method** [EF3 COL 2.0-13-A]



**DRAINAGE TO POND 1 (OVER LAND)**

Note: Inlets discharge through main outfall, existing underground 96-inch overflow canal and north to pond.

Q is storm runoff flow-rate with values are listed in cfs

## **Table 2.4-213 Discharge (Q) from Final Grade Locations Calculated with the Rational Method** [EF3 COL 2.0-13-A]

#### **From Detroit, Michigan Rainfall-Intensity Curves**







## Table 2.4-214 Existing Site and Final Grade Runoff Comparison [EF3 COL<br>2.0-13-A]



Q is storm runoff flow-rate with values of cubic feet per second (cfs)

## **Table 2.4-215 Swan Creek Flow Characteristics** [EF3 COL 2.0-14-A]



### **Table 2.4-216 Swan Creek Watershed Incremental PMP Depths for the 72-Hour Storm** [EF3 COL 2.0-14-A]





Source: [Reference 2.4-235](#page-81-2), [Reference 2.4-236](#page-81-1)

# Table 2.4-217 **PMP Temporal Distribution Fable 2.4-217 PMP Temporal Distribution 12.0-14-A** PMP



## Table 2.4-218 NRCS Dimensionless Unit Hydrograph Ordinates

[EF3 COL<br>2.0-14-A]


## **Table 2.4-219 •• Summary of Results for Alternative II - PMF <b>1998 1998** [EF3 COL 2.0-14-A] **[**



## **Table 2.4-220 Summary of Results for Alternative I – 500-Year Flood** [EF3 COL 2.0-14-A]



**Table 2.4-221 Summary of Results for Alternative III – Probable Maximum Surge and Seiche** [EF3 COL 2.0-14-A]

			Q Total	Min Ch El	<b>W.S.</b> Elev	Crit <b>W.S.</b>	E.G. Elev	E.G. Slope	Vel Ch	<b>Flow</b> <b>Area</b>	Top Width	<b>Froude</b>
<b>Reach</b>	<b>River Station</b>	<b>Profile</b>	(cfs)	(f <sup>t</sup> )	(f <sup>t</sup> )	(f <sup>t</sup> )	(f <sup>t</sup> )	$({\rm ft/ft})$	(ft/s)	(sqft)	(f <sup>t</sup> )	# Ch
Lower	11183.750	Surge	3100	571.44	585.43		585.43	0.000001	0.10	29400.1	5486.5	0.01
Lower	10494.990	Surge	3100	571.44	585.43		585.43	0.000001	0.09	28865.1	5264.0	$\mathbf 0$
Lower	7638.755	Surge	3100	571.44	585.43		585.43	0	0.03	64710.1	7411.7	0
Lower	6964.589	Surge	3100	571.44	585.43		585.43	0	0.03	65374.9	6896.7	0
Lower	5464.923	Surge	3100	571.43	585.43		585.43	0	0.02	76715.0	7411.9	0
Lower	3964.480	Surge	3100	571.44	585.43		585.43	0	0.02	108980.7	9514.8	0
Lower	1936.913	Surge	3100	570.86	585.43		585.43	0	0.02	96091.8	9641.7	0
Lower	530.7749	Surge	3100	571.41	585.43	572.21	585.43	0	0.02	101365.3	9418.9	$\mathbf 0$

# **Table 2.4-222 Lake Erie - Possible Storm Induced Lake Level**

**IEF3 COL 2.0-14-A]** 



## **Table 2.4-223 Wavelengths for Various Points in the Lake** [EF3 COL 2.0-16-A]



## Table 2.4-224 Breaking Wave Heights **Fig. 14 COL 2.0-16-A** [EF3 COL 2.0-16-A]



### **Table 2.4-225 Lake Erie Extreme Low Water Elevations from 1967-2007 at the Fermi Site (Station No. 9063090)**



(a) This elevation was noted on Nuclear Generation Memorandum NP-00-0064, dated August 16, 2000. This elevation has also been confirmed by NOAA on February 7, 2008.

Source: [Reference 2.4-259](#page-83-1), [Reference 2.4-260](#page-83-0)

## **Table 2.4-226 •• EPA Region 5 Sole Source Aquifers <b>1998 1999 12.0-23-A** [EF3 COL 2.0-23-A]



Source: [Reference](#page-84-0) 2.4-268, [Reference](#page-84-1) 2.4-269

## **Table 2.4-227 Monroe County, Michigan Projected Groundwater Use Through 2060** [EF3 COL 2.0-23-A]



## **Table 2.4-228 Wayne County, Michigan Projected Groundwater Use Through 2060** [EF3 COL 2.0-23-A]



## **Table 2.4-229 •• Monitoring Well/Piezometer Construction Data (Sheet 1 of 2)** [EF3 COL 2.0-23-A] |



## **Table 2.4-229 •• Monitoring Well/Piezometer Construction Data (Sheet 2 of 2)** [EF3 COL 2.0-23-A]





## **Table 2.4-230 • Surface Water Gauge Construction Data <b>1996 1997** [EF3 COL 2.0-23-A] **1**

## **Table 2.4-231 Water Level Data (Sheet 1 of 4)** [EF3 COL 2.0-23-A]



## **Table 2.4-231 Water Level Data (Sheet 2 of 4)** [EF3 COL 2.0-23-A]



## **Table 2.4-231 Water Level Data (Sheet 3 of 4)** [EF3 COL 2.0-23-A]



### **Table 2.4-231 Water Level Data (Sheet 4 of 4)** [EF3 COL 2.0-23-A]



Note: CB-C5 installed in Aug '07; EB/TSC-C2 installed in Sep '07; GW-01 located in Sep '07; "A" gauge stations are June 2007 to November 2007 & "B" gauge stations are April & May 2008; ND equals No Data Footnote: 1) Water level at or below bottom of screen may not represent actual water level

## **Table 2.4-232 Overburden Hydraulic Conductivity** [EF3 COL 2.0-23-A]



Notes:

1. K values from Fermi 3 slug test analyses. Where multiple tests were performed, the average value is reported.

 $\overline{\phantom{a}}$ 

### Table 2.4-233 Bedrock Aquifer Hydraulic Conductivity (Sheet 1 of 2) [EF3 COL<br>2.0-23-A]



### Table 2.4-233 Bedrock Aquifer Hydraulic Conductivity (Sheet 2 of 2) [EF3 COL<br>2.0-23-A]



Notes:

Data collected during Fermi 3 Subsurface Investigation, 2007. Comments:

0 = No hydraulic connection with adjacent zones observed.

1 = Hydraulic connection with lower zone observed.

2 = Hydraulic connection with upper zone observed.

## Table 2.4-234 Groundwater Flow Estimates **Firms** [EF3 COL 2.0-24-A] **[**

 $\mathbf I$  $\overline{\mathbf{I}}$  $\blacksquare$ 



### **Table 2.4-235 Radionuclide Concentrations at Receptor Based on Eastward Flow Path to Lake Erie (Sheet 1 of 4)** [EF3 COL 2.0-24-A]



### **Table 2.4-235 Radionuclide Concentrations at Receptor Based on Eastward Flow Path to Lake Erie (Sheet 2 of 4)** [EF3 COL 2.0-24-A]



### **Table 2.4-235 Radionuclide Concentrations at Receptor Based on Eastward Flow Path to Lake Erie (Sheet 3 of 4)** [EF3 COL 2.0-24-A]



#### **Table 2.4-235 Radionuclide Concentrations at Receptor Based on Eastward Flow Path to Lake Erie (Sheet 4 of 4)** [EF3 COL 2.0-24-A]



### **Table 2.4-236 Radionuclide Concentrations at Receptor Based on Westward Flow Path (Sheet 1 of 4)** [EF3 COL 2.0-24-A]



### **Table 2.4-236 Radionuclide Concentrations at Receptor Based on Westward Flow Path (Sheet 2 of 4)** [EF3 COL 2.0-24-A]



### **Table 2.4-236 Radionuclide Concentrations at Receptor Based on Westward Flow Path (Sheet 3 of 4)** [EF3 COL 2.0-24-A]



#### **Table 2.4-236 Radionuclide Concentrations at Receptor Based on Westward Flow Path (Sheet 4 of 4)** [EF3 COL 2.0-24-A]







Source: [Reference](#page-77-0) 2.4-201



**Figure 2.4-203 Major Tributaries of Lake Erie [EF3 COL 2.0-12-A]** 







### **Figure 2.4-206 Hydrology of the Great Lakes Water System <b>Figure 2.4-206 Hydrology of the Great Lakes Water System Figure 2.4-206 Hydrology of the Great Lakes Water System**



### **Figure 2.4-207 Total Water Withdrawals by Sector in Michigan (MGD) 2000-2004** [EF3 COL 2.0-12-A]


### **Figure 2.4-208 • Swan Creek and Stony Creek Watershed Basins [EF3 COL 2.0-12-A] |**

### **Figure 2.4-209 Topographic Map for 12 km Vicinity around the Fermi Property (Base map: USGS 1:100,000 Scale Metric Topographic Map Series)** [EF3 COL 2.0-13-A]



## **Figure 2.4-210 Topographic Map Showing Fermi Property Boundary (Base map: USGS 1:24,000 7.5 Minute Topographic Series)** [EF3 COL



### **Figure 2.4-211 Fermi 3 Site Plan** [EF3 COL 2.0-12-A]







Source: [Reference 2.4-228](#page-80-0), [Reference 2.4-234](#page-81-1)

## **Figure 2.4-213 Fermi 3 Site PMP Duration-Intensity Curve** [EF3 COL 2.0-13-A]



### **Figure 2.4-214 Existing Sub-Basin Drainage Areas** [EF3 COL 2.0-12-A]



## **Figure 2.4-215 Final Grade Drainage Areas** [EF3 COL 2.0-12-A]



**Figure 2.4-216 NRCS Dimensional Unit Hydrograph Q Results for One Square Mi PMF of Fermi 3** [EF3 COL 2.0-13-A]





 $\bigotimes$ 18 42 49  $\Box$ LAKE ERIE VIA LAKE ERIE VIA<br>NORTH LAGOOM 12.5; 1 SLOP LAKE ERIE  $\frac{1}{2}$ Θ Ę  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -53 \end{bmatrix}$ LAKE ERIE VIA<br>NORTH LAGOON  $N<sub>1</sub>$ N3  $\circ$ **LAKE ERIE** AD LAKE ERIE VIA<br>NORTH LAGOON  $S<sub>1</sub>$ இ ERIE LAKÌ LAKE ERIE VIA<br>SOUTH LAGOON LAKE ERIE VIA<br>SOUTH LAGOON - EXISTING 1" CONTOURS<br>- PROPOSED 1" CONTOURS<br>DIRECTION OF FLOW LAKE ERIE VIA<br>SOUTH LAGOON 300 600 30C 150  $1" = 300'$ 

## **Figure 2.4-217 • Final Grade Drainage Areas Assuming Clogged Underground Storm Drains and Culverts**





### **Figure 2.4-218 Swan Creek Cross-Sections** [EF3 COL 2.0-14-A]



### **Figure 2.4-219 Hydrograph Results** [EF3 COL 2.0-14-A]

















**Figure 2.4-224 Alternative I - Swan Creek Profile at Station 5+30.7749 (East Side of Fermi Site) [EF3 COL 2.0-14-A]** 



















## **Figure 2.4-229 Water Level Gauging Stations in Lake Erie** [EF3 COL 2.0-16-A]

### **Figure 2.4-230 Wave Run-up and Overtopping on Impermeable Structures (Example)** [EF3 COL 2.0-16-A]





### **Figure 2.4-232 Regional Aquifer System** [EF3 COL 2.0-23-A]









Source: [Reference 2.4-268](#page-84-2), [Reference 2.4-269](#page-84-1)



# **Figure 2.4-236 All Wells Within 2 Mi** [EF3 COL 2.0-23-A]



# **Figure 2.4-237 All Wells Within 5 Mi** [EF3 COL 2.0-23-A]



### **Figure 2.4-238 All Wells Within 25 Mi** [EF3 COL 2.0-23-A]



Source: [Reference](#page-85-0) 2.4-274, [Reference](#page-85-1) 2.4-275





Source: [Reference 2.4-261](#page-83-0)



Source: [Reference 2.4-278](#page-85-2)




















## **Figure 2.4-251 Monroe County Water Level Hydrographs** [EF3 COL 2.0-23-A]

Source: [Reference](#page-85-0) 2.4-278







## **Figure 2.4-255 Dewatering Bass Islands Group: Drawdown Contours - Reinforced Diaphragm Concrete Wall With Grouted Base Combination** [EF3 COL 2.0-23-A]



## **Figure 2.4-256 Dewatering Bass Islands Group: Drawdown Contours – Grout Curtain/Freeze Wall Combination with a Grouted Base** [EF3 COL



I

