

September 26, 2011

Mr. Peter W. Smith, Director
Nuclear Development – Licensing & Engineering 337 - WCB
Detroit Edison Company
One Energy Plaza
Detroit, MI 48226-1279

SUBJECT: FERMIL NUCLEAR POWER PLANT, UNIT 3 COMBINED LICENSE
APPLICATION REVIEW SCHEDULE

Dear Mr. Smith:

By letter dated September 18, 2008, Detroit Edison Company (Detroit Edison) submitted a combined license application (COLA) for Fermi 3. This application was subsequently docketed and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff began its review of the application.

By letter dated December 9, 2010, Detroit Edison submitted COLA markups incorporating the Economic Simplified-Boiling Water Reactor (ESBWR) design control document (DCD) soil properties requirement to reflect changes to the ESBWR DCD Revision 7 and 8. In a letter dated June 17, 2011, Detroit Edison stated that while developing responses to requests for additional information (RAIs), it was recognized that there is not a practical backfill design that would be satisfactory to NRC staff and would meet the ESBWR DCD soil properties requirements. Therefore, Detroit Edison submitted a site-specific Soil-Structure Interaction (SSI) analyses in the June letter to demonstrate the adequacy of the standard plant design.

The NRC staff is currently evaluating the SSI analyses and will issue RAIs as we progress through our review. Furthermore, the challenges discussed during the July 21, 2011, public meeting regarding the SSI code have prolonged our review. Given the difficulty of the technical issues to be evaluated and the volume of material to be reviewed, the staff anticipates that the next RAIs regarding this topic will be issued by November 2011 and that an audit will be conducted in the late winter/early spring timeframe in order to support completion of this section of the safety evaluation report (SER) as it relates to Chapters 2 and 3 by September 2012. This section of the staff's review constitutes the critical path for completion of the SER.

The new milestones for the four phases of the COLA safety review are provided in the enclosure to this letter. The milestones for the three phases of the environmental review are not affected by the safety review challenges described above. However, they are enclosed as well for your convenience. The schedule assumes technically complete responses within the stipulated timeframe in the letter transmitting the NRC's RAIs. For any RAIs that cannot be answered within the specified timeframe, it is expected that a date for receipt of this information will be provided to the staff within 30 days of receiving the RAIs so that the staff can assess how this information will impact the published schedule. In addition, any new and significant changes or additions to the COLA or supporting documentation could impact scheduled completion dates.

P. Smith

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If you have any questions or comments concerning this matter, please contact the lead project manager, Adrian Muñiz at 301-415-4093 or via e-mail address at Adrian.Muniz@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

David B. Matthews, Director
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

Docket No.: 52-033

Enclosure:
As stated

cc: See next page

P. Smith

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If you have any questions or comments concerning this matter, please contact the lead project manager, Adrian Muñiz at 301-415-4093 or via e-mail address at Adrian.Muniz@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

David B. Matthews, Director
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Docket No.: 52-033

Enclosure:
As stated

cc: See next page

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OFFICE	PM:DNRL/BWR	LA:DNRL/ BWR	BC(A):DNRL/BWR	BC:/DSER/RGS2
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DATE	09/19/2011	09/16/11	09/21/11	09/22/11
OFFICE	NRO:DE:SEB2	DD:DNRL		
NAME	BThomas	DMatthews		
DATE	09/19/2011	09/26/11		

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**Detroit Edison Company – Fermi 3 Combined License Application
Review Milestones**

Safety Review		
Key Milestones	Current Completion Date Actual – A Target T	New Completion Date Actual – A Target – T
Phase 1 – Requests for Additional Information (RAIs) and Supplemental RAIs	8/20/2010 – A	8/20/2010 - A
Phase 2 – Advanced Final Safety Evaluation Report (SER) without Open Items	11/2011 – T	9/2012 - T
Phase 3 – Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) Review of SER without Open Items	4/2012 – T	2/2013 - T
Phase 4 – Final SER	9/2012 - T	5/2013 - T

Environmental Review	
Key Milestones	Completion Date
Phase 1 – Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Scoping Summary Report Issued	7/02/09 - A
Phase 2 – EPA Issues Federal Register Notice of Filing for Draft EIS/Draft EIS Complete	10/2011 - T
Phase 3 – Federal Register Notice of Availability of the Final EIS Published/Final EIS Complete	11/2012 - T

Enclosure

Fermi - Mailing List

(Revised 08/08/2011)

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