

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

DTE ELECTRIC COMPANY

(Fermi Nuclear Power Plant, Unit 3)

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Docket No. 52-033-COL

APPLICANT'S RESPONSE TO SUPPLEMENTAL PUBLIC COMMISSION
QUESTIONS FOR FERMI UNIT 3 HEARING ON UNCONTESTED ISSUES

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COUNSEL FOR DTE ELECTRIC
COMPANY

January 28, 2015

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:)	
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DTE ELECTRIC COMPANY)	Docket No. 52-033-COL
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(Fermi Nuclear Power Plant, Unit 3))	

APPLICANT’S RESPONSE TO ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMISSION
QUESTIONS FOR FERMI UNIT 3 HEARING ON UNCONTESTED ISSUES

INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the Order (Transmitting Additional Prehearing Questions), dated January 16, 2015, DTE Electric Company (“DTE”) provides a written answer to the question posed to it by the Commission.

APPLICANT’S RESPONSE TO COMMISSION QUESTION

Question 1: Clarify whether the discussion of future certifications and permits needed for the transmission corridor, with accompanying mitigation measures, defers an analysis of the environmental impacts associated with the transmission corridor or describes the likely impacts of building the transmission corridor.

DTE Response

The discussion in the Fermi 3 FEIS of potential future development in the offsite transmission corridor, including mitigation measures, describes the reasonably foreseeable impacts of such activities fully consistent with the requirements of NEPA. Because *ITCTransmission* has control over the siting, design, and operation of offsite transmission lines and because *ITCTransmission* has not determined the route for the offsite portion of a new transmission line (if necessary) serving Fermi 3, the NRC Staff appropriately based its analysis in the FEIS on publicly available information and reasonable expectations for the configurations that *ITCTransmission* would likely use for the offsite transmission corridor, as well as standard industry practices for transmission corridor development and maintenance. This approach is consistent with NEPA’s “rule of reason,” which recognizes that an agency need not have complete information on all issues before proceeding. The NRC Staff has taken a “hard look” at the likely impacts of offsite transmission corridor development and has “come to grips with all important considerations” in

the Fermi 3 FEIS.¹ The discussion of potential impacts from offsite transmission corridor construction and operation in the Fermi 3 FEIS satisfies NEPA.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ signed electronically by
David A. Repka
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COUNSEL FOR DTE ELECTRIC
COMPANY

Dated at Washington, District of Columbia
this 28th day of January 2015

¹ *Exelon Generation Co., LLC* (Early Site Permit for Clinton ESP Site), CLI-05-29, 62 NRC 801, 811 (2005).

CERTIFICATION

I am responsible for the response to the above question. I certify that the answer was prepared by me or under my direction, and I adopt the answers as part of my sworn testimony in this proceeding. I hereby certify under penalty of perjury that the forgoing is true and complete to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

Executed in accord with 10 C.F.R. § 2.304(d),

signed electronically by Peter W. Smith

Peter W. Smith
DTE Electric Company
One Energy Plaza
Detroit, MI 48226
smithpw@dteenergy.com

Dated at Detroit, Michigan
this 28th day of January 2015

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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In the Matter of:

DTE ELECTRIC COMPANY

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Docket No. 52-033-COL

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of “APPLICANT’S RESPONSE TO ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMISSION QUESTIONS FOR FERMI UNIT 3 HEARING ON UNCONTESTED ISSUES” in the above captioned proceeding have been served via the Electronic Information Exchange this 28th day of January 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ signed electronically by
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COMPANY