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 KWIATKOWSKI, D.                Federal Emergency Management Agency  
 RECIP.NAME                      RECIPIENT AFFILIATION  
 CONGEL, F.J.                    Division of Radiation Protection & Emergency Preparedness

SUBJECT: Concurs w/request from State of MI & util that exemption be granted, allowing plant offsite, biennial exercise currently scheduled in Nov '1992 to be rescheduled in May 1993, per NRC 910524 ltr.

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# Federal Emergency Management Agency

Washington, D.C. 20472

JUL 5 1991

Mr. Frank J. Congel, Director  
Division of Radiation Protection  
and Emergency Preparedness  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Mr. Congel:

This letter is in reference to the May 24, 1991, letter to Mr. Bruce Boger, Director, Division of Reactor Projects, Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) from Mr. E. E. Fitzpatrick, Vice President, Indiana Michigan Power Company, requesting a change in the emergency plan exercise schedule for the Donald C. Cook Nuclear Power Plant, located in Bridgman, Michigan. Copies of the referenced letter and a letter from the State of Michigan also requesting a change in the Donald C. Cook exercise schedule, have been provided to and discussed with Mr. Lawrence Cohen of your staff. Copies of the two documents are also enclosed for your information.

In summary, several discussions were held during 1990 among representatives of the State of Michigan, the American Electric Power Company, (the Service Corporation for the Indiana Michigan Power Company), NRC Region III, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region V concerning rescheduling the biennial offsite radiological emergency preparedness (REP) exercise for the Donald C. Cook Nuclear Power Plant. The current schedule requires Michigan to participate in one offsite REP exercise, Donald C. Cook, one year and in three offsite REP exercises, Palisades, Fermi II, and Big Rock Point, the following year. This one and three schedule, which has been sustained over the past several years has resulted in an unbalanced exercise schedule and workload for the State of Michigan and has added to the imbalance in the FEMA Region V biennial REP exercise evaluation schedule, which involves 18 nuclear power plant sites. As a result of the consensus reached by the above mentioned parties during the several discussions in 1990, the May 24, 1991, request for an exemption to the requirements of 10 CFR 50, Appendix E, Section IV, F.3, that an exercise be conducted at Donald C. Cook in 1992, was submitted to the NRC by the Indiana Michigan Power Company. This request will also require an exemption to the requirements of Title 44 CFR, Part 350.9(c).

FEMA concurs with the request from the State of Michigan and the Indiana Michigan Power Company that an exemption be granted which would allow the Donald C. Cook offsite, biennial exercise, currently scheduled in November 1992, to be rescheduled in May 1993. We believe the request is justified based on the fact that such a schedule change would result in no adverse public health and safety implications and that the Donald C. Cook Nuclear Power Plant has conducted numerous successful exercises including the last one

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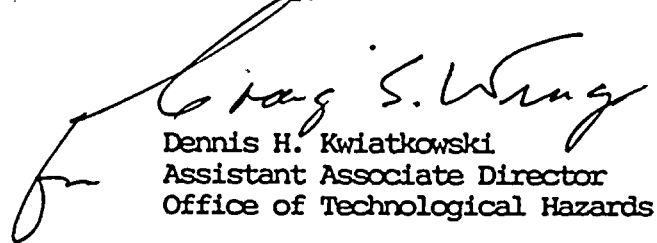
conducted in 1990, which did not identify any major issues requiring corrective actions. Such a schedule change would allow a more balanced exercise schedule for the State of Michigan and exercise evaluation schedule for FEMA. In addition, the affected local jurisdiction, Berrien County, participates in both the Donald C. Cook and Palisades exercises and such a change will not reduce the number of exercises for this jurisdiction. Subsequent to 1992, the exercise schedule will continue to meet the 10 CFR 50, Appendix E, Section IV, F.3, requirements.

Accordingly, FEMA grants an exemption to the requirements of Title 44 CFR, Part 350.9(c) for the Donald C. Cook Nuclear Power Plant to allow the November 1992 offsite biennial REP exercise to be rescheduled in May 1993.

Your early attention to this request would be appreciated. The overall REP exercise schedule for the next cycle of exercises in FEMA Region V will be developed during the annual scheduling conference to be held in August or September 1991. A decision on the exemption for Donald C. Cook by that time will facilitate the development of the overall schedule.

Should you have any questions regarding the requested exemption, please contact Mr. Craig S. Wingo, Chief, Radiological Preparedness Division, at (202) 646-3026.

Sincerely,



Dennis H. Kwiatkowski  
Assistant Associate Director  
Office of Technological Hazards

Enclosure

