



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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50-315

November 3, 1995

Mr. E. E. Fitzpatrick, Vice President  
Indiana Michigan Power Company  
c/o American Electric Power Service Corporation  
1 Riverside Plaza  
Columbus, OH 43215

SUBJECT: 60-DAY RESPONSE TO GENERIC LETTER 95-07 (TAC NOS. M93451 AND M93452)

Dear Mr. Fitzpatrick:

On August 17, 1995, the NRC issued Generic Letter (GL) 95-07, "Pressure Locking and Thermal Binding of Safety-Related Power-Operated Gate Valves." This GL requested certain actions on a 90-day and 180-day schedule and a response within 60 days indicating the licensee's intended actions regarding the requested actions. By letter dated October 13, 1995, Indiana Michigan Power Company submitted its 60-day response to GL 95-07 for Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2. In its response, Indiana Michigan Power Company stated that, based on evaluations previously performed and the industry effort in developing screening criteria, it intends to waive the 90-day requested actions of GL 95-07 and stated that it will comply with all actions and responses specified in the 180-day required response.

In its 60-day response to GL 95-07, Indiana Michigan Power Company proposed an alternative course of action. However, Indiana Michigan Power Company has not provided an adequate safety basis for determining the acceptability of this planned alternative course of action, as requested by the GL. The staff established the recommended actions for the 90-day screening evaluation in GL 95-07 to provide confidence that no short-term safety concerns exist regarding particular valves as a result of pressure locking and thermal binding. The purpose of this action is for licensees to ensure that no critical deficiencies exist in past evaluations, and take action if appropriate. The essence of the 90-day screening evaluation is to conduct an initial assessment, using current knowledge, of all safety-related power-operated gate valves to assure they are operable should they be potentially susceptible to pressure locking or thermal binding.

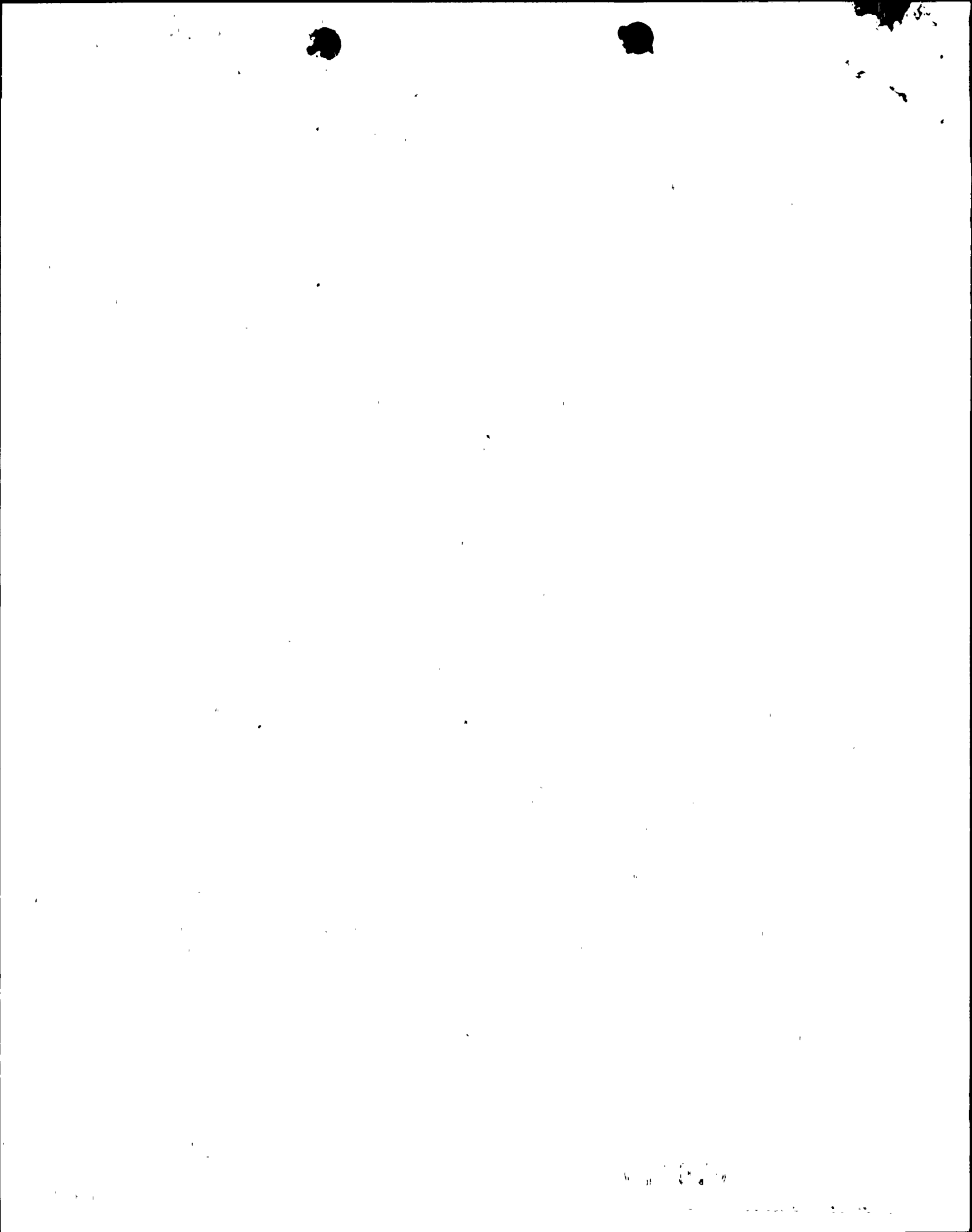
The staff considers a prompt screening evaluation to be reasonable considering the length of time the industry has been aware of and had opportunity to take action for situations involving pressure locking and thermal binding. As described in GL 95-07, the staff has provided several notifications of this issue in the past two years. Additionally, notifications from the Institute for Nuclear Power Operations (INPO) include Significant Operating Experience Report 84-7, "Pressure Locking and Thermal Binding of Gate Valves," dated December 14, 1984, and INPO Significant Event Report 8-88, "Pressure Locking of Residual Heat Removal Gate Valves," dated March 25, 1988.

Based on our review, we do not find Indiana Michigan Power Company's submittal to be fully responsive in that reliance on evaluations performed during the original design phase as well as later evaluations that may not have considered recent information, is contrary to the above stated purpose of the 90-day requested actions. In light of recent industry events involving pressure locking and thermal binding of safety-related power-operated gate

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Mr. E. E. Fitzpatrick

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valves, we conclude that the decision to waive the 90-day requested actions of GL 95-07 does not allow Indiana Michigan Power to assure itself of the current operability of these valves. Therefore, Indiana Michigan Power Company is requested to commit to the 90-day requested actions of GL 95-07 or provide a more detailed safety basis for determining the acceptability of the planned alternative course of action by November 15, 1995. Should you have any questions on this matter, please contact me at (301) 415-3017.

The information requested by this letter is within the scope of the overall burden estimated in GL 95-07, which was a maximum of 75 hours per response. This request is covered by the Office of Management and Budget Clearance Number 3150-0011, which expires July 31, 1997.

Sincerely,

*J. Hickman*

John Hickman, Project Manager  
Project Directorate III-1  
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-315/316

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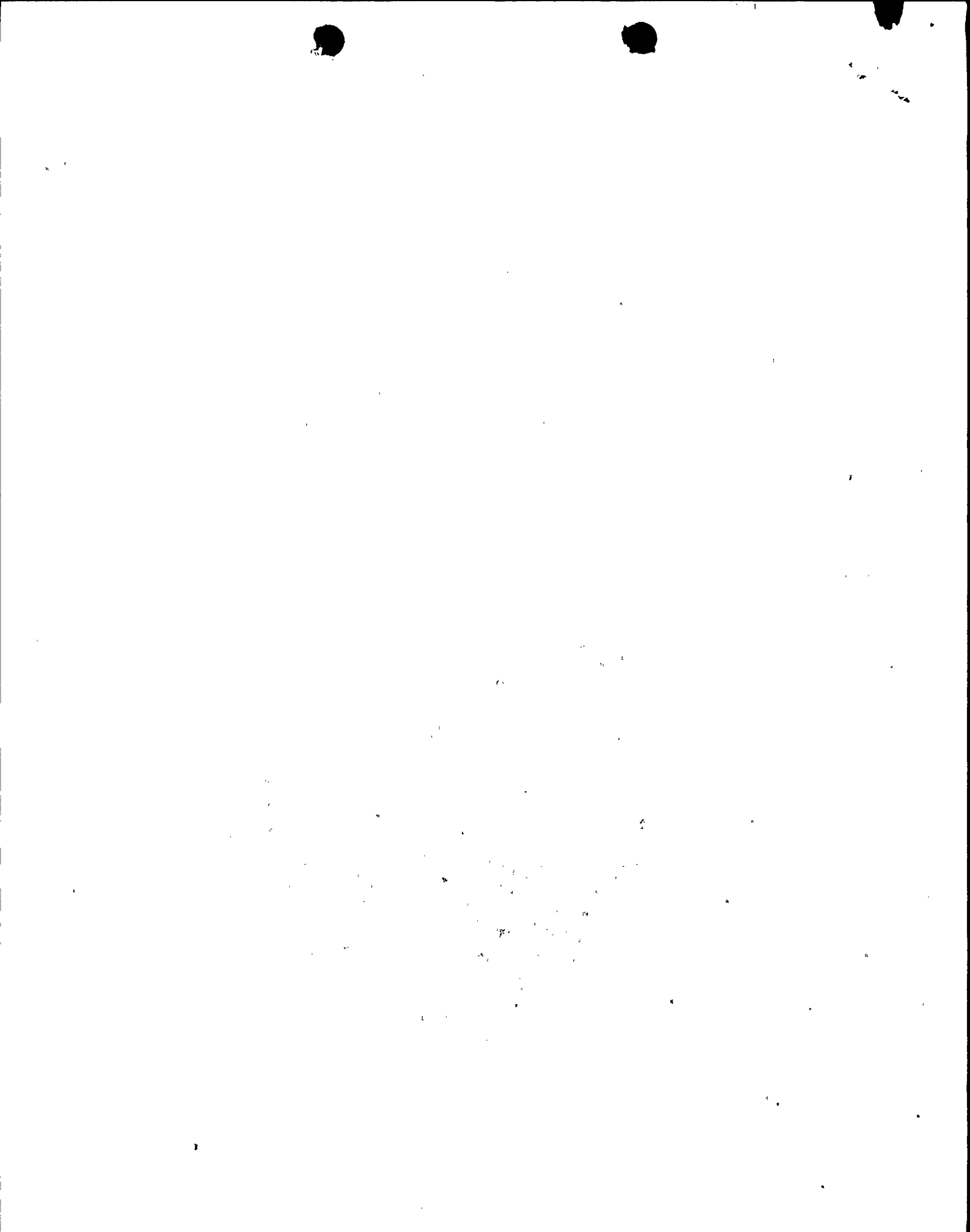
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Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant

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