February 20, 1997

Mr. E.E. Fitzpatrick, Vice President
Indiana Michigan Power
Nuclear Generation Group
500 Circle Drive
Buchanan, Michigan 49107

SUBJECT: PROTECTED AREA ACCESS CONTROL AT NUCLEAR REACTOR SITES

Dear Mr. Fitzpatrick:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is notifying all nuclear power reactor licensees of a potential problem involving the protected area access control system that may exist at your site. As a result of an unauthorized entry at one of the operating reactor sites, the NRC has determined that this situation may be a generic problem that should be analyzed by all licensees to verify that regulatory requirements are being met.

This letter is to inform you that information is being provided to your plant security manager that could assist in your efforts to protect your plant against the "insider" requirement of the design-basis threat. This information includes a Safeguards Information enclosure that is being sent only to your site security manager. The enclosure is being withheld from public disclosure due to the sensitive information that it contains.

It is suggested that the information in the safeguards enclosure be reviewed for applicability to your plant and actions be considered, as appropriate.

Should you have any questions, please contact Barry Manili in the Safeguards Branch, Nuclear Reactor Regulation at (301) 415-2912.

Sincerely,
Original Signed by
John Hickman, Project Manager
Project Directorate III-3
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-315 and 50-316

cc w/encl:
Patrick J. Russell
Plant Protection Manager
American Electric Power
Cook Nuclear Plant
One Cook Place
Bridgman, MI 49106

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