

DEC 2 1988

Mr. William T. McCormick, Jr.
Chief Executive Officer
CMS Energy Corporation
212 W. Michigan Avenue
Jackson, Michigan 49201

Dear Mr. McCormick:

SUBJECT: LOSS OF DECAY HEAT REMOVAL

We have just issued Generic Letter 88-17 which addresses loss of decay heat removal (DHR) during nonpower operation.

This letter was issued because of the potential serious consequence of loss of shutdown cooling concurrent with significant core decay heat. Further, it is our belief that the industry as a whole has not aggressively responded to resolve the concern following its identification in our earlier Generic Letter 87-12. In particular, the industry's response to the Generic Letter 87-12 was deficient in the areas of (1) prevention of accident initiation, (2) mitigation of accidents before they potentially progress to core damage, and (3) control of radioactive material if a core damage accident should occur. Generic Letter 88-17 prescribes expeditious actions which should immediately ease the concern; and parallel, but longer term, programmed enhancements which effectively address the root cause of the problems and permit greater flexibility in operation.

We consider this issue to be of high priority and request that you assure that your organization addresses it accordingly.

Sincerely,

Original signed by
Thomas E. Murley

Thomas E. Murley, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

Office:	LA/PDIII-1	PM/PDIII-1	(A)D/PDIII-1	(A)AD/DRSP
Surname:	RIngram	DDI :cr	TQuay	MVirgilio
Date:	11/2/88	11/2/88	11/2/88	11/3/88
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Surname:	GHolahan	DCrutchfield	JSNIEZEK	TMurley
Date:	11/9/88	11/9/88	11/9/88	12/1/88

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

DEC 2 1988

Docket No. 50-255

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CMS Energy Corporation
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Jackson, Michigan 49201

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas E. Murley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the name.

Thomas E. Murley, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

Mr. William T. McCormick, Jr.

Palisades Plant

cc:

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