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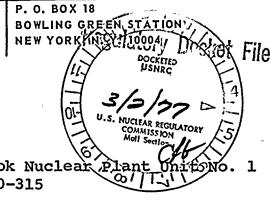
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## INDIANA & MICHIGAN POWER COMPANY



February 28<sup>3</sup>, 1977

Donald C. Cook Nuclear Docket No. 50-315 DPR No. 58



Mr. Benard C. Rusche, Director Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Rusche:

In Mr. Dennis L. Ziemann's letter of November 23, 1976, which we received on November 29, 1976, he requested further information regarding the effect of high burnup on fission gas release and the impact of increased rod internal pressure on the safety analysis. We transmitted that letter to Exxon Nuclear Company, Inc. asking that they reply promptly to us for your category of plants that will reach peak local fuel rod burnups of 20,000 Megawatt days per metric ton of uranium after June 1, 1977. We estimate that this burnup of the Exxon Nuclear Company fuel will be achieved in Unit 1 of the Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant during the early portion of our third cycle of operation (2nd cycle for the Exxon fuel). This will probably be in the first half of 1978.

The attached letter from Exxon, in response to our request indicates the results of calculation of internal fuel rod pressure in accordance with your request. Exxon also indicates that they will have completed the balance of the

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QN ..

Mr. Benard C. Rusche

- 2 -

February 28, 1977

evaluation as requested by your letter by November 1977.

Very truly yours,

Ma *i*one ce Presider

GPM:mam Attachment

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 28<sup>th</sup> day of February in New York County, New York

Notary Public

KATHLEEN BARRY; NOTARY PUBLIC, State of New York No. 41-4606792 Qualified in Queens County Certificate filed in New York County Lommission expires March 30, 1977

cc: G. Charnoff

- R. C. Callen
- R. J. Vollen
- P. W. Steketee
- R. Walsh
- R. S. Hunter
- R. W. Jurgensen Bridgman

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## EXON NUCLEAR COMPAN, Ainc.

210) Hom Replits Rosal P. O. Bur 130, Richland, Washington 99352 Planar, (508) 943-0105 – Telex: 32-6353 (AEP) FROMI G. F. OWSLEY (ENC)

February 22, 1977

INSTEIN

Mr. Robert Hunter, Vice President, Nuclear Engineering Nucrican Electric Power Two Broadway New York, New York 10004

SUBJECT: Fission Gas Release in Exxon Nuclear supplied Fuel -Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant Unit I

1, .

Reference: Letter from D. L. Ziemann (NRC) to Mr. John Tillinghast (Indiana & Michigan Electric Company) dated November 23, 1976

Dear Mr. Hunter:

In response to the request by the NRC (above reference), the impact of additional fission gas release after 20,000 MAD/MTM burnup is being investigated for the Exxon Nuclear supplied 15x15 fuel. To evaluate the fission gas, release and the fuel pin internal pressure, the NRC approved PNR fuel densification model with modifications to incorporate the fission gas release formula specified in the reference letter has been used. A Maximum linear heat generation rate of 13.68 km/ft. was used in the analysis. With the revised release formula, a peak pin pressure of 1855 psia is calculated, as compared to 1145 psia with the present model. The maximum fission gas release fraction is calculated to be .24 with the revised model, compared to .05 with the present model. The maximum fission gas release found not to exceed the system operating pressure.

Excon Nuclear will complete its evaluation as requested in the reference latter by November 1977. The maximum exposure in Exxon Nuclear supplied fuel in the Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant Unit I will not reach 20,000 DND/T prior to mid-1978.

Sincerely,

G. F. Owsley, Manager, Reload Licensing

(34):31

CC: Mr. R. H. Dischinger

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