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

DEC 8 1979

The Honorable Carl Levin United States Senate Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Levin:

I am pleased to respond to your letter of October 19, 1979 which requests a copy of the NRC's reply to your constituent, Mr. Wendell H. Marshall concerning the sinking of the Diesel Generator Building and cracks in this and other buildings at the site for the Midland Plant, Units 1 & 2.

Mr. H. Denton's reply of November 8, 1979 is enclosed. I am also enclosing an earlier reply of July 5, 1979 to a related concern expressed by Mr. Marshall's telegram of June 9, 1979. From these replies, you will note that the backfill settlement and its effects are currently under review by the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation and the Office of Inspection and Enforcement. We have also acquired the additional review assistance of the U. S. Corps of Engineers in Detroit, Michigan, and of the Energy Technology Engineering Center in Canoga Park, California. The review is currently the subject of a 10 CFR 50.54(f) request and decisions relative to enforcement action as may be appropriate to this case are nearing completion. This matter has also been proposed and accepted as an issue for the hearing for operating licenses on Midland Plant, Units 1 & 2. Mr. Marshall has been admitted as a hearing intervenor on the basis of this and other issues. For your information, the State of Michigan will also be participating in this hearing. The start date for the hearing has not yet been established.

Sincerely,

Lee V. Gossick Executive Director for Operations

THE PY R. G. SMITH

Enclosures:

- Letter to W. H. Marshall dated July 5, 1979
- Letter to W. H. Marsnail dated November 8, 1979

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