Docket Nos: 50-329/330

Mr. J. D. Selby Chairman of the Board and President Consumers Power Company 212 West Michigan Avenue Jackson, Michigan 49201

Dear Mr. Selby:

LB #4 r/f DEisenhut EAdensam AUG 2 1 1981 DHood RHernan MDuncan SHanauer RTedesco RVollmer Murley Mattson 1HHartfield, MPA DELD OIE (3) **JMatore** WLovelace

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Docket Files 60-329/830

bcc: TERA
Local PDR
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Your letter of June 25, 1981 expresses your belief that the Midland docket is substantially complete, and that the SER should be rescheduled for issuance in January 1982 rather than July 1982. Your request is intended to provide for a period of 18 months from SER issuance until a Commission decision, which you believe is necessary for plants with heavily contested hearings.

The NRC is presently reassessing its licensing schedule for all calendar year 1983 plants which are expected to be heavily contested cases. As a result of this review we are evaluating the earliest practical date that a Midland SER can be published. At this time, we are encouraged that the present July 1, 1982 date could be improved, providing that your staff can support the level of activity required. To mitigate the impact of the present soils hearings on the time available for the assigned Licensing Project Manager to devote to review of the Midland FSAR, we have assigned a second person to act in the Project Manager's behalf in his absence and to assist him in coordinating the review. The July Bevill Report issued in August reflects a revised date of May 1982 for issuance of the Midland Safety Evaluation Report (SER). This schedule will allow 44 months from issuance of the SER to the Commission decision date as compared to 12 months previously. A case load forecast panel visit is scheduled for the Midland Plant on August 26-27, 1981. The results of this visit will provide additional data to be considered in reassessing our license schedule for the Midland Plant.

As you know, the NRC staff has initiated recent procedural changes intended to expedite current operating license reviews. Under these new procedures, you will be requested to make authorized members of your staff available in Bethesda for as many days as necessary to undertake an intensive effort and face-to-face communications with the staff to resolve outstanding issues identified in early SER drafts. The actual date of SER issuance for Midland will depend primarily upon your ability to support and provide substantive follow up of these intensive sessions. The first few draft SER sections have been forwarded to your staff and others are being forwarded as they become available. Most SER draft

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sections should be forwarded by the end of 1981. We anticipate the scheduling of review sessions with your staff once sufficient SER drafts have been forwarded, probably during the next one or two months.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by H. R. Benton

Harold R. Denton, Director Office of Muclear Reactor Regulation

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*NOTE: SEE PREVIOUS WHITE FOR CONCURRENCE OFFICE DL:LB #4 DL:LB #4 DL:LB #4 AD:L/DL DE:DIR

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NRC FORM 318 (10-80) NRCM 0240

LISGPC: 1981-335-960

Mr. J. D. Selby

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Sincerely,

Harold R. Denton, Director Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Harold R. Denton, Director Officer of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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