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

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Antioch School of Law
2633 16th Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20009

In the Matter of
BIG ROCK POINT PLANT
(Consumers Power Company)
Docket No. 50-155 (Spent Fuel Expansion)

Dear Mr. Semmel:

As a follow-up to my Technical Assistant Gary Zech's letter to you of September 22, 1982, enclosed herewith is a Memorandum to File prepared by him which summarizes the events and conversations which occurred during our visit to the Big Rock plant.

I trust this will satisfy any questions you may have about this trip.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Roberts

cc: Peter B. Bloch, Esq.
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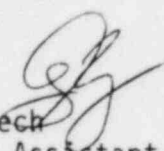
OFFICE OF THE
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UNITED STATES
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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

October 12, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR FILE

FROM:

Gary G. Zech 
Technical Assistant to Commissioner Roberts

SUBJECT:

TOUR OF BIG ROCK POINT SITE, SEPTEMBER 28, 1982

On September 28, 1982, Commissioner Roberts and I visited the Big Rock Point site. The purpose of the visit was to familiarize Mr. Roberts with the Big Rock Point facility and to review its history of operation and its current status. The visit was in conjunction with the ceremony on September 27, 1982, marking the 20th year since initial criticality of the facility.

Accompanying us from Region III of the NRC were Messrs. Geoff Wright and Mike Parker, the Senior Resident Inspector and Resident Inspector, respectively, of the Big Rock Point facility. During our tour, we were briefed by Mr. Russ Abel of Consumers Power Company (CPC), who is the Operations and Maintenance Superintendent. Mr. Roger Huston, Nuclear Licensing Representative of CPC, joined us during the tour and we met briefly with Mr. David Hoffman, the Big Rock Point Plant Superintendent, before and at the close of our visit.

We arrived at the Big Rock Point facility at about 8:30 a.m. on September 28, 1982. Mr. Abel provided a brief summary of the plant procedures regarding access control to the containment and appropriate radiological control precautions, and we were issued dosimeters for our tour. We then entered into the containment sphere through the personnel hatch. The interlock system was described which is designed to ensure that containment integrity is met. It was also pointed out that containment is maintained at a slightly negative pressure with respect to outside atmospheric pressure.

The containment sphere was described as a steel vessel, 130 feet in diameter. Personnel access to areas within containment is not overly restrictive. There are only three areas to which some control is required. These are the Control Rod Drive Room, the Steam Drum Room, and the Recirc. Pump Room. The containment is designed for access during normal operations and the plant was at about 91% power during our tour. While in containment, Mr. Abel provided information regarding the ongoing fuel research program that CPC has with Exxon, its fuel supplier. He also described the Big Rock Point experience gained through the years and the measures taken to minimize the stress on the fuel and, therefore, the success achieved in reducing fuel related problems. We also discussed the containment ventilation system which is in operation 100% of the time during reactor operation and the design requirements of the ventilation system supply and exhaust valves which are closed within six seconds after any scram signal. While in containment, the

equipment, components and systems identified and briefly discussed included the following:

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| Emergency Condenser | Equipment Hatch |
| Steam Drum | In-Core Monitors |
| Service Crane | Reactor Water Cleanup System |
| Refueling Bridge | Service Water System |
| New Fuel Storage Area | Reactor Cooling Water System |
| Refueling Equipment | Recirc Pump Room |
| Core Spray System | Control Rod Drive Pumps & |
| Escape Hatch | Hydraulic Control Units |
| | Reactor Head Storage Area |

Note: The brief description of the spent fuel pool area and procedures used for refueling was general in nature and did not include any reference to the issues under consideration in the spent fuel pool proceeding.

We then exited the containment and proceeded to the turbine building where the various systems and components, including the following, were identified:

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Steam Turbine & Generator | Feedwater System |
| Condensate System | Rad Waste Disposal System |
| Condenser | |

We next visited the control room area where the various annunciators, controls and panels were described. The Reactor Depressurization System panel, which was added about five years ago, was specifically identified. Regarding operator training, Mr. Abel indicated that the Big Rock Point operators periodically qualify on the Dresden simulator as an integral part of their training program.

From the control room, we proceeded to the outside cable penetration area which, because of its layout and design, has resulted in a decision by CPC to add an alternate shutdown system. The high radiation monitors located in this area, which are a post-TMI-2 mod, were also located in this area. We next visited the pump house where the traveling screens, circulating water, service water and fire protection/core spray system pumps are located.

We finished our visit by completing a tour of the plant from outside containment and were shown the following components and systems:

- Diesel Generator Building
- Security Fence
- Escape Hatch Penetration
- Equipment Hatch Penetration
- Containment Ventilation System Supply & Exhaust Valve Enclosure
- Exhaust Stack
- Core Spray System Room (Post Incident Recirc System Room)
- Future Remote Shutdown Panel Location (In Core Spray System Room)
- Condensate & Demineralized Water Storage Tanks

Following a brief closing visit with Mr. Hoffman, Mr. Roberts and his party departed at 11:00 a.m.