

DED/DC 8  
(RDS)

November 30, 1990

Docket No. 50-341  
License No. NPF-43  
EA 90-193

The Detroit Edison Company  
ATTN: W. S. Orser  
Senior Vice President  
Nuclear Generation  
6400 North Dixie Highway  
Newport, MI 48166

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF VIOLATION  
(INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-341/90018)

This refers to the routine safety inspection conducted by Messrs R. A. Paul, N. Shah, and T. J. Kozak of this office on October 22-26, 1990, of activities at Fermi 2, authorized by NRC Operating License No. NPF-43 and to the discussion of our findings with Mr. W. Orser and others of your staff at the conclusion of the inspection. Our inspection report for this inspection was forwarded to you by our letter dated November 23, 1990.

The inspection report described five apparent violations of regulatory requirements related to shipment of radioactive materials. Two were associated with the shipment of a box of contaminated tools - shipping the box with a contact dose rate exceeding the Department of Transportation limit of 200 millirems per hour, and failure to adequately survey the box prior to its shipment.

While the first violation could be categorized as a Severity Level III violation in accordance with Supplement V of the "General Statement of Policy and Procedure for NRC Enforcement Actions" (Enforcement Policy), 10 CFR Part 2, Appendix C (1990), in this case the bottom of the box remained relatively inaccessible and did not constitute a significant health and safety concern. The dose rates on the accessible sides of the box were within regulatory limits as were the dose rates on the overall shipment. However, we are concerned that the failure to identify the contamination was a failure to communicate between two technicians. Our inspection of this matter also showed that effective corrective actions were being taken to correct the problems and prevent their recurrence. Therefore, after consultation with the Director, Office of Enforcement, this violation has been classified as Severity Level IV. The second violation has also been classified as Severity Level IV. The two violations are specified in the enclosed Notice of Violation. A written response to these violations is required.

The inspection report also described three apparent violations associated with unexpected low level personnel exposures from neutron startup sources that were shipped for burial in a cask with cut up control rod blades. The first

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violation involved the failure to perform a neutron survey of the shipping cask. A neutron survey would have prevented the exposures. But, a survey was not done due to poor communications within the health physics group and to incorrect information obtained from contractors that the neutron source activity was insignificant. This occurrence points out the need for better oversight of contractor activities related to waste shipments. The second violation involved the inaccurate identification of the "curie" content on the shipping manifest because of the misquantification of the neutron activity. The third violation involved the unauthorized use of the shipping cask for neutron sources. These three violations were identified by your good practice of routinely processing all neutron TLD chips without requiring an initiating event and resulted in extensive and thorough investigation and corrective actions. These licensee identified violations are not being cited because the criteria specified in Section V.G of the Enforcement Policy were satisfied.

You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. In your response, you should document the specific actions taken and any additional actions you plan to take to prevent recurrence. After reviewing your response to this Notice, including your proposed corrective actions, and the results of future inspections, the NRC will determine whether further enforcement action is needed.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the Commission's regulations, a copy of this letter, the enclosure, and your response to this letter will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

The response directed by this letter and the accompanying Notice are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, PL 96-511.

Sincerely,

"Original signed by W. L. Axelson"

Charles E. Norelius, Director  
Division of Radiation Safety  
and Safeguards

Enclosure: Notice of Violation

See Attached Distribution

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from R. Rosario, OE)  
Lieberman *[Signature]*  
11/29/90

RIII

*[Signature]*  
Norelius  
11/30/90

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