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October 8, 1982
EF2-59399

Mr. James G. Keppler, Regional Administrator
Region III
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
799 Roosevelt Road
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

Subject: Interim Report of 10CFR50.55(e) Item on Defective Pipe Support
Strut Swivel Bearings (#68)

Dear Mr. Keppler:

This additional interim report on the defective pipe support strut swivel bearings problem has been prepared to provide the current status of this problem.

This item was originally reported to Mr. H. Wescott of NRC Region III by Detroit Edison's Mr. H.A. Walker, Supervisor-Construction Quality Assurance, on May 14, 1982.

As previously reported, IE Circular 81-05 states: "The specific deficiencies identified involved the clamp end of the sway strut becoming loose, and possibly being disengaged from the bushing. This could result in a large gap in the support system not accounted for in the original analysis."

The defect was discovered during an investigation initiated as a result of this circular. At that time, nine (9) supports had been determined to be affected.

A meeting was held on September 23, 1982, by Project Quality Assurance, Hanger Engineering and Site Management to discuss the preliminary results of the strut swivel bearing walkdown inspection. Due to the high rate of discrepancies, it was agreed that additional inspection requirements for field inspectors should be developed and incorporated into current procedures. Additionally, a retrofit program is to be developed to address previously installed struts.

Another report on this item, either interim or final, is scheduled to be sent to you on or before February 4, 1983. If you have questions concerning this matter, please contact Mr. G.M. Trahey, Assistant Director-Project Quality Assurance.

Very truly yours,

DAW/DF/cp

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cc: Mr. Richard DeYoung, Director
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Mr. Bruce Little, Senior Resident Inspector
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