

MAR 23 1979

Docket Nos: 50-329  
50-330

APPLICANT: Consumer Power Company  
FACILITY: Midland Plant, Units 1 & 2  
SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MARCH 6, 1979 TRIP TO OBSERVE  
STATUS OF SOIL PRELOAD PROGRAM

On March 6, 1979, members of the NRC visited the Midland site to observe the status of the preloading program being performed in order to consolidate the fill in the vicinity of and underneath the diesel generator building. Participants and contacts are listed in Enclosure 1.

The preload program consists of placing granular fill (sand) inside the diesel generator building and for some distance outside the building. The level of preload at this stage consisted of a 10-foot uniform height. Further preload operation is dependent upon the applicant's evaluation of the results of this stage. A preload height of 20 feet above final plant grade is the maximum expected.

The preliminary data being obtained on the response to the 10-foot preload was reviewed. The data suggests that additional compaction is being achieved, particularly at the upper levels of the fill. As expected, a rapid rate of settlement was experienced initially in response to the preload, and the rate of settlement generally decreased thereafter. The preliminary data also suggests that the south-east corner of the diesel generator building is settling at a greater rate than the south-west corner. The applicant also noted that the concrete encasement for the condensate line located underneath the western half of the building is now believed to be in direct contact with the building foundation. This situation is being closely monitored and the validity of the measurements is being checked.

The preliminary measurements of ground water behavior beneath the building in response to the preload showed local variations in level. This tends to further confirm that the fill material under the structure is variable.

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The applicant reported that instrumentation previously installed in the tank farm area was being relocated so as not to interfere with construction activities.

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Measurements of an underground service water pipe located between the diesel generator building and turbine building indicate a substantial variation in elevation. The Bechtel representative stated that this variation is believed to be due to faulty initial installation, and that the pipe would be replaced upon completion of the preload program.

A general tour of the site was made, including all seismic Category I structures founded upon fill.

The data reviewed during the trip will be reported in Bechtel's interim report 5 to NCAR 24 and will be forwarded by the applicant to the NRC in April 1979.

Darl Hood  
Light Water Reactor Branch No. 4  
Division of Project Management

Enclosure:  
As stated

cc: See next page

OFFICE	LWR#4:DPM DHood:ak <i>DH</i>	LWR#4:DPM <i>SV</i> 3/20/79				
SURNAME						
DATE						

ccs:

Michael I. Miller, Esq.  
Isham, Lincoln & Beale  
Suite 4200  
One First National Plaza  
Chicago, Illinois 60670

Mr. S. H. Howell  
Vice President  
Consumers Power Company  
212 West Michigan Avenue  
Jackson, Michigan 49201

Judd L. Bacon, Esq.  
Consumers Power Company  
212 West Michigan Avenue  
Jackson, Michigan 49201

Mr. Paul A. Perry  
Secretary  
Consumers Power Company  
212 W. Michigan Avenue  
Jackson, Michigan 49201

Myron M. Cherry, Esq.  
One IBM Plaza  
Chicago, Illinois 60611

Mary Sinclair  
5711 Summerset Drive  
Midland, Michigan 48640

Frank J. Kelley, Esq.  
Attorney General  
State of Michigan Environmental  
Protection Division  
720 Law Building  
Lansing, Michigan 48913

Mr. Wendell Marshall  
Route 10  
Midland, Michigan 48640

Grant J. Merritt, Esq.  
Thompson, Nielsen, Klaverkamp & James  
4444 IDS Center  
80 South Eighth Street  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402

Enclosure 1

NRC PARTICIPANTS

Darl Hood  
Dan Gillen  
Abdel Hafiz  
Gene Gallagher

Division of Project Management, NRR  
Geotechnical Engineering Branch, DSE/NRR  
Structural Engineering Branch, DSS/NRR  
I&E, Region III

CONTACTS

Consumers Power Company

Thiru Thiruvengadam  
Charles Hunt  
Bob Wheeler

Bechtel

Charles McConnel  
Austin Marshall



Meeting Summary Distribution

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Docket File  
NRC PDR  
1 PDR  
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E. G. Case  
D. Bunch  
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D. Ross  
D. B. Vassallo  
D. Skovholt  
M. Gammill  
J. Stolz  
R. Baer  
O. Parr  
S. Varga  
C. Helton  
W. Haass  
R. Houston  
L. Crocker  
D. Crutchfield  
F. Williams  
R. J. Mattson  
R. DeYoung  
D. Hood  
Attorney, ELD  
M. Service  
IE (3)  
ACRS (16)  
R. Denise  
L. Rubenstein

J. Knight  
S. Hanauer  
R. Tedesco  
R. Busnak  
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F. Schauer  
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T. Novak  
W. Butler  
V. Benaroya  
R. Saterfield  
V. Moore  
M. Ernst  
F. Rosa  
R. Denise  
EP Branch Chief  
W. Kreger  
G. Lear  
L. Hulman  
D. Gillen, DSE  
A. Hafiz, DSS  
G. Gallagher, IE