

50-341



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

December 19, 1996

Mr. Douglas R. Gipson
Senior Vice President
Nuclear Generation
Detroit Edison Company
6400 North Dixie Highway
Newport, Michigan 48166

SUBJECT: ACTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH AN AMENDMENT REQUEST FOR THE TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE ROD BLOCK MONITOR AT FERMI 2

Dear Mr. Gipson:

On December 2, 1996, you submitted an amendment request for Fermi 2 Technical Specifications (TS) 3.1.4.3, Rod Block Monitor and 3.3.6, Control Rod Block Instrumentation. In your submittal you explained that the applicability statement in the TS needed to be changed to ensure that all fuel limits would be met during Cycle 6 for a rod withdrawal error at power. Therefore, your proposed amendment would revise the applicability statement to include the entire range of conditions for which the rod block monitor should be operable.

In the interim, you have established administrative controls intended to ensure that appropriate actions, based on the proposed revised applicability statement, will be taken by plant personnel if one or more channels of the rod block monitor become inoperable. The administrative controls consist of a TS clarification in conjunction with a statement in the Core Operating Limits Report (COLR) concerning the revised applicability. The TS clarification states that the [existing] TS requirements for the Rod Block Monitor shall be applicable whenever thermal power is greater than or equal to 30% of rated thermal power. In addition, licensed operators have received training concerning the revised applicability of the technical specification.

The administrative controls described in your submittal appear to direct appropriate action by the operators if one or more channels of the rod block monitor becomes inoperable in the operating region not currently included in the technical specifications. Given that the administrative controls are more conservative than the existing technical specifications, the staff does not object to the use of these controls pending the completion of our review of your amendment request. In the interim, the staff expects that you will maintain the administrative controls you have described in place.

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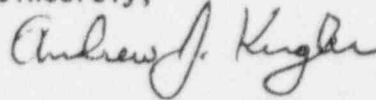
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D. Gipson

- 2 -

If you have any questions concerning this issue, please contact me.

Sincerely,



Andrew J. Kugler, Project Manager
Project Directorate III-1
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-341

cc: See next page

Mr. Douglas R. Gipson
Detroit Edison Company

Fermi-2

cc:

John Flynn, Esquire
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Detroit Edison Company
Fermi-2 - 270 TAC
6400 North Dixie Highway
Newport, Michigan 48166

D. Gipson

- 2 -

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Sincerely,

Original signed by
Andrew J. Kugler, Project Manager
Project Directorate III-1
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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D. Gipson

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