



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
SUPPORTING AMENDMENT NO.25 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-43

DETROIT EDISON COMPANY

WOLVERINE POWER SUPPLY COOPERATIVE, INCORPORATED

FERMI-2

DOCKET NO. 50-341

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated March 28, 1988, the Detroit Edison Company (DECo or the licensee) requested an amendment to the Technical Specifications (TSs) appended to Facility Operating License No. NPF-43 for Fermi-2. The proposed amendment would revise Technical Specification Table 1.2, Footnote #, to include the provisions to place the mode switch in the Refuel position to facilitate Source Range Monitor (SRM) and Intermediate Range Monitor (IRM) operability testing.

SRMs and IRMs are not required to be operable in Operational Condition 1 and, therefore, may require channel functional or calibration testing immediately following a plant shutdown or scram.

Performing the SRM and IRM surveillances with the reactor mode switch in the Shutdown position precludes testing of the control rod block function since the Shutdown position of the reactor mode switch also provides a control rod block. The control rod block function, on the other hand, must be tested prior to entering Operational Condition 2 or 5. To complete the required testing, the reactor mode switch must be placed in a position which does not create a rod block (position other than Shutdown).

2.0 EVALUATION

Testing of the rod block function is currently done using the Startup/Hot Standby position because there is no provision for using the Refuel position. This situation exists primarily when attempting IRM and SRM surveillances but is also applicable to any rod block testing which may be necessary in Operational Conditions 3 and 4. Even though use of the Startup/Hot Standby position is safe, the Refuel position is the most conservative switch position to use for this purpose because the Refuel position replaces the control rod block with a one-rod-out permissive feature. The Startup/Hot Standby position does not provide a feature to limit control rod withdrawal.

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The NRC staff concludes that the requested change in the Footnote to Table 1.2 is acceptable because the addition allows testing of the rod block functions in a more conservative manner than currently allowed by the Technical Specifications.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

This amendment involves a change in the use of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. We have determined that this amendment involves no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluents which may be released offsite, and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that this amendment involves no significant hazards consideration and there has been no public comment on such finding. Accordingly, this amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b), no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of this amendment.

4.0 CONCLUSION

We have concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, and (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and the issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributor: T. Quay

Dated: August 3, 1988