



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION III
801 WARRENVILLE ROAD
LISLE, ILLINOIS 60532-4351
August 26, 1997

Public

Mr. D. R. Gipson
Senior Vice President
Nuclear Generation
The Detroit Edison Company
6400 North Dixie Highway
Newport, MI 48166

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-341/97007(DRP)
AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Gipson:

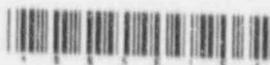
On June 30, 1997, the NRC completed a routine resident inspection at your Fermi 2 reactor facility. The enclosed report presents the results of that inspection.

During the 7-week period covered by this inspection, your staff's performance was characterized by a safety conscious approach. This inspection report documents the completion of a number of projects to improve plant system performance by correcting several longstanding equipment design problems. These efforts resulted in reducing the number of equipment problems that distracted or challenged plant operators, reducing the maintenance work backlog, and improving plant thermal efficiency. We also noted that your staff's performance in conducting safety system outages had improved. Additionally, through the coordinated efforts of your staff, the plant was placed in single loop operation and the Reactor Recirculation Motor Generator Tachometer-generator was repaired without any significant problems. However, we continue to be concerned with your staff's performance in understanding and complying with Technical Specification requirements. During this inspection, three instances were identified where your staff failed to follow Technical Specification requirements.

Based on the results of this inspection, the NRC has determined that six violations of NRC requirements occurred of which four are cited. These four violations are cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice) and the circumstances surrounding them are described in detail in the subject inspection report. The first violation involves the failure to perform Technical Specification required actions within the limiting condition for operation time limit due to inadequate work preparation and coordination. The second violation involves the failure to perform a surveillance test because your staff did not understand the associated Technical Specification requirement. This problem with understanding Technical Specification requirements was discussed during your last enforcement conference in February 1997. The third violation pertains to the failure to follow procedures when a discharge or service test was not performed following the conduct of maintenance on a new battery which potentially affected battery capacity.

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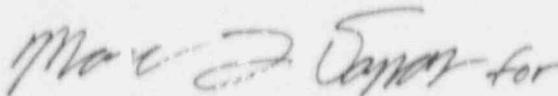


The fourth violation involves the failure to prevent recurrent freezing of the Condensate Storage Tank (CST) instrument lines due to inadequate corrective actions. The freezing of these lines rendered automatic suction swapper for both the high pressure coolant injection and reactor core isolation cooling systems inoperable. In addition, this condition inhibited operators from taking manual actions by rendering the CST low level alarm and level indication inoperable. The freezing of the instrument sensing lines required that standby feedwater systems be declared inoperable.

You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. The NRC will use your response, in part, to determine whether further enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures, and your response will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR).

Sincerely,



Geoffrey E. Grant, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos: 50-341
License Nos: NPF-43

Enclosures: 1. Notice of Violation
2. Inspection Report
No. 50-341/97007

cc w/encls: N. Peterson,
Supervisor of Compliance
P. A. Marquardt, Corporate
Legal Department
James R. Padgett, Michigan Public
Service Commission
Michigan Department of
Environmental Quality
Monroe County, Emergency
Management Division

The fourth violation involves the failure to prevent recurrent freezing of the Condensate Storage Tank (CST) instrument lines due to inadequate corrective actions. The freezing of these lines rendered automatic suction swapover for both the high pressure coolant injection and reactor core isolation cooling systems inoperable. In addition, this condition inhibited operators from taking manual actions by rendering the CST low level alarm and level indication inoperable. The freezing of the instrument sensing lines required that standby feedwater systems be declared inoperable.

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Sincerely,

/s/Marc L. Dapas for
 Geoffrey E. Grant, Director
 Division of Reactor Projects

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 License Nos: NPF-43

- Enclosures: 1. Notice of Violation
 2. Inspection Report
 No. 50-341/97007

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