



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION III
788 ROOSEVELT ROAD
GLEN ELLYN, ILLINOIS 60137

FEB 22 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: G. M. Holahan, Assistant Director for Regions III and V
Reactors, Division of Reactor Projects-III/IV/V and
Special Projects, NRR

FROM: H. J. Miller, Director, Division of Reactor Safety, RIII

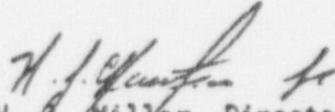
SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE - CLARIFICATION OF NRC POSITION
COVERING TIMELINESS OF FIRE BRIGADE RESPONSE
(AITS F03002088)

During a recent review of fire brigade allegations at the LaSalle Nuclear Station, one of my fire protection inspectors raised a concern regarding the failure of the Station "Fire Alarm Response" Procedure to prescribe the need for fire brigade assistance upon receipt of an alarm on the fire alarm annunciator panel in the control room. The current station procedure states that upon the receipt of an unplanned fire alarm on the control room annunciator panel, an operator is to be dispatched to the fire alarmed area to investigate whether an actual fire is present or not. My inspector took the position that this present station policy creates the potential for a delay in alerting and assembling the fire brigade after an unplanned actuation of a fire alarm, thereby potentially allowing the fire to spread un-suppressed. The inspector believes that the intent of the fire detection system is to provide early notification of a fire condition. The inspector emphasized that the brigade need only be sent to the assembly area (fire brigade equipment station) for fire response preparation until the plant operator confirms or denies that a fire exists. The licensee took exception to this issue being categorized as a violation of their commitments to the fire protection program requirements of the LaSalle County Station operating license. Attached is a copy of the licensee's response to the Notice of Violation included in Inspection Report Nos. 50-373/87027(DRS); 50-374/87026(DRS) (Attachment 1). Recent inspections at both Davis-Besse and Fermi resulted in this issue being raised at those facilities.

① We request that NRR clarify licensee requirements regarding alerting and assembling a licensee's fire brigade when an unplanned fire alarm is received on a control room annunciator panel.

If you have any questions concerning this issue, please contact Mr. Joseph Ulie of my staff on FTS 388-5712.

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PDR FOIA
LENBB-566 PDR


H. J. Miller, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

Attachments:

1. Ltr dtd 10/13/87, 880110372 PDR
CECo to NRC

50-341 2. Fermi 2 LER 87-049-01 8701300140 PDR

See Attached Distribution 8711100352 PDR

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