

February 24, 2000

Mr. R. P. Powers
Senior Vice President
Nuclear Generation Group
American Electric Power Company
500 Circle Drive
Buchanan, MI 49107-1395

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF THE FEBRUARY 15, 2000, D. C. COOK PUBLIC MEETING
REGARDING D. C. COOK TRANSITION TO THE REVISED REACTOR
OVERSIGHT PROCESS

Dear Mr. Powers:

On February 15, 2000, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) held a public meeting at the NRC Headquarters in Rockville, Maryland. The meeting was held to discuss the transition of D. C. Cook to the NRC's Revised Reactor Oversight Process. Formal presentations were made by the American Electric Power Company (licensee) staff. Attached to this letter is a list of attendees for the meeting, and a copy of the slides used by licensee and NRC representatives during their respective presentations.

Opening remarks were provided by Jack Grobe, Director of the Division of Reactor Safety in Region III and the NRC's D. C. Cook Oversight Manager. Mr. Grobe presented the expectations for the meeting and provided a brief overview of the status of implementation of the Revised Reactor Oversight Process at other nuclear power plants. Mr. Grobe also noted that D. C. Cook had formally requested a delay in transitioning to the Revised Reactor Oversight Process thus leading to the discussions planned for this meeting.

Michael Johnson, Chief, Performance Assessment Section, Nuclear Reactor Regulation provided an overview of the Revised Reactor Oversight Process indicating that full implementation of the process is scheduled for April 2, 2000. Key attributes of the revised process were discussed and a general timeline for industry implementation was reviewed. NRC representatives discussed the Agency's desire to implement the revised process at D. C. Cook as soon as possible, recognizing that due to D. C. Cook being shutdown for an extended period and the significant resources being applied to restart, a delayed implementation date may be appropriate.

Robert Powers, Senior Vice President - AEP opened the licensee's presentation by indicating that the licensee would also like to implement the revised program as soon as practical; however, due to the extended shutdown and the resources being applied to

restart, a delayed transition is desirable to them. Chris Bakken, D. C. Cook Site Vice President, provided a summary of the past two years at D. C. Cook, reviewing the plant's activities during that time, discussing some of the major initiatives undertaken and discussing the outcomes of those initiatives. Mr. Bakken indicated that the focus for the plant over the past two years has been the safe restart of both units and thus the plant has not focused on preparations for implementation of the Revised Reactor Oversight Process. He further stated that in looking at what would be necessary to implement the revised process and to provide historical performance indicator (PI) data, a significant effort would be necessary, which Cook management felt would detract from their efforts to safely restart the plant.

Licensee representatives stated that they evaluated each of the Revised Reactor Oversight Process cornerstones to evaluate what performance indicator data is retrievable, the difficulty of retrieving that data and the reliability of the data collected. The licensee representatives indicated that only certain PI data within the cornerstones of Emergency Preparedness, Public Radiation Safety, and Safeguards was available, reliable and could be relatively easily retrieved. Data in the other cornerstones was determined to be either unavailable due to the operating status of the plant (shutdown) over the past two years or the data was not easily retrievable and of questionable accuracy.

Licensee representatives proposed a Revised Reactor Oversight Process implementation timeline which would establish an implementation team during the first quarter following Unit 2 restart; develop the process infrastructure, conduct training for plant staff, and begin to implement plans during the second quarter after Unit 2 restart; collect and validate trial data during the third quarter after Unit 2 restart and the first quarter following Unit 1 restart; begin official collection of PI data during the fourth quarter following Unit 2 restart and the second quarter following Unit 1 restart and make the first submission of PI data 20 days after the end of this quarter.

NRC representatives indicated that the Revised Reactor Oversight Program could be implemented at any point and that it is the NRC's preference to implement the program as soon as possible. NRC representatives described a "graduated" implementation process that would implement the program at the time of Unit 2 restart. The licensee would report whatever PI data is available and reliable and would begin collecting data in the other cornerstones, and report that data as it becomes reliable. Licensee representatives indicated that a graduated approach might work for them.

At the conclusion of the meeting, licensee representatives agreed to evaluate the "graduated" revised process implementation approach and determine what PIs can be reported beginning with Unit 2 restart. NRC representatives committed to providing the licensee with better

definition of the proposed inspection procedures to be utilized and a more clearly defined inspection plan. It was agreed by the licensee and NRC representatives to hold another meeting in approximately one week to further discuss the transition process.

Sincerely,

/RA/

John A. Grobe, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-315; 50-316
License Nos. DPR-58; DPR-74

Enclosures: 1. List of Meeting Attendees
2. NRC's Slide Presentation
3. Licensee's Slide Presentation

cc w/encls: A. C. Bakken III, Site Vice President
J. Pollock, Plant Manager
M. Rencheck, Vice President, Nuclear Engineering
R. Whale, Michigan Public Service Commission
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Emergency Management Division
MI Department of State Police
D. Lochbaum, Union of Concerned Scientists

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John A. Grobe, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

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 - R. Whale, Michigan Public Service Commission
 - Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
 - Emergency Management Division
 - MI Department of State Police
 - D. Lochbaum, Union of Concerned Scientists

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D. C. Cook Nuclear Plant

February 15, 2000, Transition to Revised Oversight Process

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Robert Godley	AEP
Bob Powers	AEP
Chris Bakken	AEP
Bruce Bartlett	NRC/Region III
Michael Johnson	NRR-DIPM
Don Hickman	NRR/NRC
Jack Grobe	NRC/Region III
S. Singh Bajwa	NRC/NRR
Claudia Craig	NRC/NRR
John Stang	NRC/NRR
Serita Sander	NRC/NRR
Dan Salter	HGP, Inc
Peter Moeller	AEP- Consultant
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