



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

REGION III  
2443 WARRENVILLE RD. SUITE 210  
LISLE, IL 60532-4352

August 31, 2016

Mr. Paul Fessler  
Chief Nuclear Officer  
DTE Energy Company  
Fermi 2 - 210 NOC  
6400 North Dixie Highway  
Newport, MI 48166

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR FERMI POWER PLANT  
(REPORT 05000341/2016005)

Dear Mr. Fessler:

On August 10, 2016, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed its mid-cycle performance review of Fermi Power Plant. The NRC reviewed the most recent quarterly performance indicators (PIs) in addition to inspection results and enforcement actions from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of your facility during this period and its plans for future inspections at your facility.

The NRC determined that overall, Fermi Power Plant operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and met all cornerstone objectives. The NRC determined the performance at Fermi Nuclear Plant during the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Action Matrix because all inspection findings had very low (i.e., green) safety significance, and all PIs indicated that your performance was within the nominal, expected range (i.e., green). Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct ROP baseline inspections at your facility.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through June 30, 2018. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. The inspections listed during the second half of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the end-of-cycle performance review. The NRC provides the inspection plan to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues. The NRC will contact you as soon as possible to discuss changes to the inspection plan should circumstances warrant any changes. This inspection plan does not include security related inspections, which will be sent via separate, non-publicly available correspondence.

From July 1, 2015, to June 30, 2016, the NRC issued four Severity Level IV traditional enforcement violations associated with impeding the regulatory process. Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct Inspection Procedure 92723, "Follow Up Inspection for Three or More Severity Level IV Traditional Enforcement Violations in the Same Area in a 12-Month Period," to follow-up on these violations.

In response to the accident at Fukushima, the Commission issued Order EA-12-049, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Requirements for Mitigation Strategies for Beyond-Design-Basis External Events," and Order EA-12-051, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Reliable Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation." The NRC conducted audits of licensee efforts towards compliance with these Orders, and the information gathered will aid staff in development of the ultimate Safety Evaluation for the site. After the NRC staff receives the Final Compliance letter for the site, the Safety Evaluation will be issued. Then, the NRC staff will confirm through inspections the full implementation of the orders mentioned above by performing Temporary Instruction 191, "Inspection of the Implementation of Mitigation Strategies and Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation Orders and Emergency Preparedness Communication/Staffing/Multi-Unit Dose Assessment Plans." Pending receipt of the final compliance letter, this inspection is currently scheduled in January 2017.

In Staff Requirements Memorandum – SECY 16-0009, "Recommendations Resulting from the Integrated Prioritization and Re-Baselining of Agency Activities," the Commission approved the NRC staff recommendation to discontinue the formal mid-cycle assessment process beginning in calendar year 2017. This will be the final mid-cycle assessment letter. The staff will continue to conduct quarterly assessment meetings and communicate changes in the assessment of licensee performance in accordance with the guidance in Inspection Manual Chapter 0305, "Operating Reactor Assessment Program."

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Please contact me at 630-829-9827 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Billy Dickson, Chief  
Branch 5  
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No. 50-341  
License No. NPF-43

Enclosure:  
Inspection Plan

cc: Distribution via LISTSERV®

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|--------|-------------|--|--|--|--|
| OFFICE | R111        |  |  |  |  |
| NAME   | BDickson:bw |  |  |  |  |
| DATE   | 08/24/2016  |  |  |  |  |

**OFFICIAL RECORD COPY**

Letter to Paul Fessler from Billy Dickson dated August 31, 2016

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**Fermi**  
**Inspection / Activity Plan**  
**09/01/2016 - 06/30/2018**

| Unit Number | Planned Dates |            | Inspection Activity                                     | Title   | No. of Staff on Site |
|-------------|---------------|------------|---|---|----------------------|
|             | Start         | End        |   |   |                      |
|             |               |            | <b>ENG BI - COMPONENT DESIGN BASES INSPECTION</b>       |   | <b>6</b>             |
| 2           | 08/01/2016    | 09/02/2016 | IP 7111121  | Component Design Bases Inspection   |                      |
|             |               |            | <b>BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION</b> |   | <b>1</b>             |
| 2           | 09/26/2016    | 09/30/2016 | IP 71151  | Performance Indicator Verification  |                      |
|             |               |            | <b>BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION</b> |   | <b>1</b>             |
| 2           | 10/31/2016    | 11/04/2016 | IP 71124.06   | Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment   |                      |
|             |               |            | <b>FLEX - FLEX/MITIGATING STRATEGIES/SFPI</b>           |   | <b>5</b>             |
| 2           | 01/23/2017    | 01/27/2017 | IP 2515/191   | Inspection of Licensee's Responses to Order EA-12-049, EA-12-051 & EP Info Request March 12, 2012 |                      |
|             |               |            | <b>OL PREP - INIT EXAM/MARCH 2017</b>                   |   | <b>3</b>             |
| 2           | 02/27/2017    | 03/03/2017 | W90356  | OL - INITIAL EXAM - 2017 FEB-MAR - FERMI 2  |                      |
|             |               |            | <b>OL EXAM - INIT EXAM/MARCH 2017</b>                   |   | <b>3</b>             |
| 2           | 03/20/2017    | 03/31/2017 | W90356  | OL - INITIAL EXAM - 2017 FEB-MAR - FERMI 2  |                      |
|             |               |            | <b>ISI - INSERVICE INSPECTION</b>                       |   | <b>1</b>             |
| 2           | 03/20/2017    | 04/19/2017 | IP 7111108G   | Inservice Inspection Activities - BWR   |                      |
|             |               |            | <b>BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION</b> |   | <b>2</b>             |
| 2           | 04/10/2017    | 04/14/2017 | IP 71124.01   | Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls  |                      |
| 2           | 04/10/2017    | 04/14/2017 | IP 71124.02   | Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls  |                      |
|             |               |            | <b>BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION</b> |   | <b>1</b>             |
| 2           | 06/05/2017    | 06/09/2017 | IP 71124.03   | In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation  |                      |
| 2           | 06/05/2017    | 06/09/2017 | IP 71124.04   | Occupational Dose Assessment  |                      |
|             |               |            | <b>BI PI&amp;R - BIENNIAL PI&amp;R INSPECTION</b>       |   | <b>4</b>             |
| 2           | 06/05/2017    | 06/23/2017 | IP 71152B   | Problem Identification and Resolution   |                      |
|             |               |            | <b>BI FIRE - TRIENNIAL FIRE PROTECTION AND BAG TRIP</b> |   | <b>3</b>             |
| 2           | 08/14/2017    | 09/15/2017 | IP 7111105T   | Fire Protection [Triennial]   |                      |
|             |               |            | <b>BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION</b> |   | <b>1</b>             |
| 2           | 09/25/2017    | 09/29/2017 | IP 71124.08   | Radioactive Solid Waste Processing and Radioactive Material Handling, Storage, and Transportation |                      |
| 2           | 09/25/2017    | 09/29/2017 | IP 71151  | Performance Indicator Verification  |                      |
|             |               |            | <b>BI EP - EP BASELINE INSPECTION/ PI VERIFICATION</b>  |   | <b>1</b>             |
| 2           | 10/23/2017    | 10/27/2017 | IP 7111402  | Alert and Notification System Testing   |                      |
| 2           | 10/23/2017    | 10/27/2017 | IP 7111403  | Emergency Preparedness Organization Staffing and Augmentation System                              |                      |
| 2           | 10/23/2017    | 10/27/2017 | IP 7111405  | Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies                                  |                      |
| 2           | 10/23/2017    | 10/27/2017 | IP 71151  | Performance Indicator Verification  |                      |

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.  
This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.

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Inspection / Activity Plan  
09/01/2016 - 06/30/2018

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|-------------|---------------------|-------------------|---|--|----------------------|
|             |                     |                   | <b>BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION</b> |  | <b>1</b>             |
| 2           | 02/05/2018          | 02/09/2018        | IP 71124.05   | Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation     |                      |
|             |                     |                   | <b>BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION</b> |  | <b>1</b>             |
| 2           | 04/09/2018          | 04/13/2018        | IP 71124.02   | Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls |                      |

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