

September 7, 2000

Mr. William T. O'Connor, Jr.  
Vice President - Nuclear Generation  
Detroit Edison Company  
6400 North Dixie Highway  
Newport, MI 48166

SUBJECT: FERMI 2 - CORRECTION TO THE MARCH 30, 2000, SAFETY EVALUATION  
FOR INSERVICE INSPECTION (ISI) RELIEF REQUEST A19

Dear Mr. O'Connor:

By letter dated August 19, 1999, as supplemented February 4 and March 15, 2000, the Detroit Edison Company (DECo or the licensee) requested relief from certain ISI requirements of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (the Code), Section XI, for the Fermi 2 plant. The requests for relief are related to inspections under the ISI non-destructive examination program for the second 10-year interval.

The staff documented the results of its review of these relief requests in a safety evaluation (SE) dated March 30, 2000. However, DECo raised a question concerning the staff's evaluation of Relief Request (RR) A19. This request involves relief from the Code hold time requirements for insulated piping in the high-pressure coolant injection system. In particular, DECo questioned the staff's statement in Section 2.2.4.5 of the SE that 25 percent of the welds on this piping receive surface examinations in accordance with the Code.

The licensee's submittal dated August 19, 1999, discussed the Code requirements for surface examinations. The staff indicated in its SE that additional assurance was provided by the Code-required surface examination of 25 percent of the welds. However, the components addressed by RR A19 are Code Class 2 components. The Code requires that 7.5 percent of welds in Class 2 components receive a surface examination each interval. This correction does not affect the staff's finding with respect to RR A19 because these inspections were not part of the primary basis for the staff's conclusions. Therefore, the licensee's proposed alternative is still authorized pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(ii) for the second 10-year inspection interval.

If you have any questions on this matter, please call Darl Hood at (301) 415-3049.

Sincerely,

***/RA by B. Wetzel for/***

Claudia M. Craig, Chief, Section 1  
Project Directorate III  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-341

cc: See next page

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