

# REGULATORY INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM (RIDS)

ACCESSION NBR: 8003180525 DOC. DATE: 80/03/14 NOTARIZED: NO DOCKET #  
 FACIL: 50-315 Donald C. Cook Nuclear Power Plant, Unit 1, Indiana & 05000315  
 50-316 Donald C. Cook Nuclear Power Plant, Unit 2, Indiana & 05000316  
 AUTH. NAME AUTHOR AFFILIATION  
 DRUCKEMILLER, J. Indiana & Michigan Electric Co.  
 RECIP. NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION  
 COURCHAINE, R.J. Michigan, State of

SUBJECT: Discusses preliminary concerns about intake structure design  
 & chlorine discharges re NPDES permit. Concerns fully &  
 adequately responded to in course of company aquatic  
 studies.

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**INDIANA & MICHIGAN ELECTRIC COMPANY**

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March 14, 1980

Mr. Robert J. Courchaine  
Chief, Water Quality Division  
Michigan Department of Natural Resources  
Post Office Box 30028  
Lansing, Michigan 48909

RE: Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant  
NPDES Permit No. MI0005827

Dear Mr. Courchaine:

On February 21, 1980, Mr. A. Schwencer, on behalf of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission ("NRC"), wrote to you commenting on various issues relating to the Cook Nuclear Plant NPDES Permit.

As Mr. Schwencer correctly notes, at the time licenses for the Cook Nuclear Plant were being considered by the NRC, some preliminary concerns were raised as to intake structure design and chlorine discharges. These matters, of course, also were of concern to the Michigan Water Resources Commission ("MWRC") when it initially authorized discharges from the Cook Nuclear Plant. It was because of these concerns that the MWRC directed the Indiana & Michigan Electric Company ("Company") to undertake extensive and comprehensive studies as part of the Company's demonstrations pursuant to Sections 316(a) and (b) of the Clean Water Act and in support of the Company's request for an alternative limitation on the discharge of chlorine.

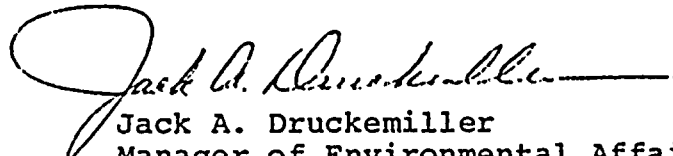
The voluminous material presented by the Company to the MWRC, including formal reports from both the Company and its consultants at the University of Michigan -- much of which has not been reviewed by the NRC -- has formed the basis for favorable decisions by the MWRC with respect to Section 316(a) and chlorine; the MWRC currently is reviewing the Company's demonstration under Section 316(b). The Company properly believes that the concerns initially raised by the NRC and the MWRC have been fully and adequately responded to in the course of the Company's aquatic studies. Thus, the relevant inquiry is whether current information indicates that the Cook Nuclear

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Plant intakes represent the best technology available -- which it does -- and not whether past concerns based on incomplete and preliminary information may have indicated a need for further study.

As to the NRC's request that it be offered the opportunity to review and comment on the proposed renewal permit, such review during the public comment period is appropriate and the Company would welcome comments by the NRC.

Very truly yours,

  
Jack A. Druckemiller  
Manager of Environmental Affairs

JAD:sb

cc. See attached list


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