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 FITZPATRICK,E. American Electric Power Co., Inc.
 RECIP.NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
 MURLEY,T.E. Document Control Branch (Document Control Desk)

SUBJECT: Requests staff's review & approval of a license amendment
 that will be submitted later to allow use of difital-based
 reactor protection sys.

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AEP:NRC: 1159B

Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant Units 1 and 2
Docket Nos. 50-315 and 50-316
License Nos. DPR-58 and DPR-74
REACTOR PROTECTION SYSTEM MODIFICATION

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk
Washington, D. C. 20555

Attention: T. E. Murley

May 1, 1992

Dear Dr. Murley:

On April 21, 1992 a meeting was held among personnel from American Electric Power Service Corporation (AEPSC), Foxboro, and your staff to discuss the plans, schedules, and interfaces for an upgrade to the reactor protection system (RPS) for Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant Units 1 and 2. Consistent with the meeting commitments, this letter serves to formally request your staff's review and approval of a license amendment that will be submitted at a later date to allow use of this digital-based reactor protection system. As noted at the meeting, this modification is necessary due to the increased maintenance required on the existing analog protection system and the difficulty in obtaining qualified replacement parts.

The modification involves the installation of Foxboro's Spec 200 and Spec 200 microprocessor line of instrumentation. We believe that this modification will enhance overall plant safety due to the reduced drift, enhanced reliability, and greater flexibility provided by microprocessor-based hardware. The Foxboro Spec 200 line of instrumentation has proven itself in both nuclear and non-nuclear applications.

A majority of the engineering documentation will be available by November 30, 1992. As agreed to at the April 21 meeting, the engineering data and the specific license change request will be submitted at that time for NRC review and approval. The remainder, including factory acceptance test results, will be completed shortly thereafter, and will be available for staff review. It was understood from the meeting that your staff will be able to support a review schedule that will allow shipment of equipment in May 1993. We will provide whatever support your staff needs in order to meet this schedule.

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Dr. T. E. Murley

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AEP:NRC: 1159B

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Sincerely,



E. E. Fitzpatrick
Vice President

aln

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J. R. Padgett
G. Charnoff
NFEM Section Chief
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NRC Resident Inspector - Bridgman



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