

Indiana Michigan
Power Company
P.O. Box 16631
Columbus, OH 43216

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AEP:NRC:1184A

Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant Units 1 and 2
Docket Nos. 50-315 and 50-316
License Nos. DPR-58 and DPR-74
NRC INSPECTION REPORT NOS. 50-315/930010 (DRSS)
AND 50-316/930010 (DRSS); REPLY TO A NOTICE OF VIOLATION

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20005

ATTN: A. B. Martin

March 29, 1993

Dear Mr. Martin:

This letter is in response to Mr. Charles E. Norelius' letter dated March 4, 1993, which forwarded a Notice of Violation that resulted from the enforcement conference conducted on March 2, 1993. The Notice of Violation attached to Mr. Norelius' letter identified two severity level IV violations for the shipment of an empty box that exceeded Department of Transportation (DOT) contact dose rate limits and failure to ensure the limits were met prior to shipment. Our response to the Notice of Violation is provided in the attachment to this letter.

Sincerely,

E. E. Fitzpatrick

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Vice President

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Attachment

cc: A. A. Blind - Bridgman
J. R. Padgett
G. Charnoff
NRC Resident Inspector - Bridgman
NFEM Section Chief
A. B. Davis - Region III

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APR 1 1993

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Attachment to AEP:NRC:1184A
Response to Notice of Violation



NRC Violation:

- A. "10 CFR 71.5(a) requires that licensees, who transport licensed material outside the confines of their plants or deliver licensed material to a carrier for transport, comply with the applicable requirements of the regulations appropriate to the mode of transport of the Department of Transportation (DOT) in 49 CFR Part 170-189.

49 CFR 173.427(e) requires that an empty package that previously contained radioactive materials and has been emptied comply with the requirements of 49 CFR 173.421(b) that states that radiation levels at any point on the external surface of the package do not exceed 0.5 millirem per hour.

Contrary to the above, on January 26, 1993, an empty package was delivered to a vendor in Oak Ridge, Tennessee with external radiation levels of 180 millirem per hour over a small area of the package.

This is a Severity Level IV problem (Supplement V).

(1) Reason for Violation

The licensee has concluded that the pre-shipping dose rate survey of container QG-27 was inadequate. The contributing causes of this violation were that the dose rate meter used for the survey was not optimally suited for surveying an empty container and the location of the small, localized source increased the difficulty of detection.

(2) Corrective Actions Taken and Results Achieved

On January 27, 1993, the licensee informed the NRC of notification from a vendor in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, that a sea van, manifested as Radioactive Material Excepted Package - Empty Packaging, UN2910, had been received with dose rate surveys indicating external radiation levels that exceeded the 0.5 millirem per hour allowable limit.

On January 29, 1993, a representative of the licensee arrived at the vendor's facility to investigate the apparent violation. The vendor had removed, measured, and disposed of the particle the previous day. Consequently, the licensee was unable to verify the dose rates on the sea van.



(3) Preventive Actions Taken To Avoid Further Violations

Preventive actions taken to prevent recurrence of a similar event include independent surveys of all outgoing shipments of radioactive material and enhancement of procedures pertaining to shipment of radioactive material.

The policy of independent surveys for all outgoing shipments of radioactive material was initiated on February 1, 1993. On February 18, 1993, a policy memorandum was distributed to all radiation protection department personnel outlining standards for shipment of radioactive material.

The procedure, Preparation of Radioactive Shipments, 12 THP 3150.RMC.202, was revised to include independent surveys of all outgoing radioactive material shipments, utilization of optimal instrumentation for surveys, and a checklist for "empty package" shipments. This procedure revision was completed on March 1, 1993.

Training for selected radiation protection personnel on the description of the event, selection and use of optimal equipment for surveys, and proper survey methodologies will be completed by March 31, 1993.

(4) Date When Full Compliance Will Be Achieved

Full compliance will be achieved on March 31, 1993, with the completion of scheduled training for selected radiation protection personnel.

- B. 49 CFR 173.475 requires, in part, that before each shipment of any radioactive material package, the shipper ensure by examination or appropriate tests, that the external radiation levels are within allowable limits.

Contrary to the above, on January 26, 1993, an empty package was shipped without the shipper ensuring by appropriate surveys that external radiation levels were within applicable limits. Specifically, the departure survey failed to detect a radiation level of 180 millirem per hour, which exceeded the 0.5 millirem per hour allowable limit.

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FITZPATRICK, E. Indiana Michigan Power Co. (formerly Indiana & Michigan Ele
RECIP. NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
MARTIN, A.B. Document Control Branch (Document Control Desk)

SUBJECT: Responds to NRC 930304 ltr re violations noted in insp repts
50-315/93-10 & 50-316/93-10. Corrective actions: training for
selected radiation protection personnel on event & use of
optimal equipment for surveys will be completed by 930331.

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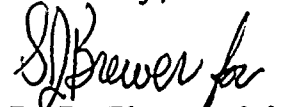
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