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SUBJECT: Informs NRC of intent to withdraw previous commitment re chlorine detection.

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November 1, 1995

AEP:NRC:0398AB

Docket Nos.: 50-315
50-316

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

Gentlemen:

Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant Units 1 and 2
MODIFICATION OF COMMITMENT REGARDING CHLORINE DETECTORS

Pursuant to a discussion with the NRC staff on October 24, 1994, the purpose of this letter is to inform you of our intent to withdraw a previous commitment regarding chlorine detection.

Our letter AEP:NRC:0398C, dated February 9, 1981, committed to installing chlorine detectors in the control room ventilation systems for the Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant. The chlorine detectors were installed in response to NUREG 0737, Item III.D.3.4, "Control Room Habitability." The need for the detectors was based on toxic gas analyses performed for NUREG 0737 Item III.D.3.4, that relied on chlorine detection to demonstrate that habitable conditions could be maintained in the event of a toxic gas release.

Subsequent to submittal of AEP:NRC:0398C and installation of the chlorine detectors, other analyses were performed as part of the probabilistic risk assessment (PRA) for Cook Nuclear Plant. All hazardous materials stored within the Cook Nuclear Plant site boundary were examined for control room habitability concerns. It was concluded that the materials stored within the site boundary present no threat to plant safety, as release of these materials will not incapacitate control room personnel or force a reactor shutdown.

Toxic chemical release and overpressure from either local industrial accidents or hazardous materials transportation accidents were also addressed in the PRA. The frequency of core damage and/or radiological release in excess of that allowed by 10 CFR 100 as a result of any off-site hazardous materials accident was determined to be insignificant. None of these analyses took credit for the presence of the chlorine detectors.

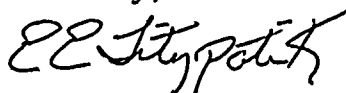
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The existing chlorine detectors are becoming obsolete and are no longer supported by the vendor. The detectors malfunction often, requiring frequent maintenance and distracting the operators. Since the detectors are no longer necessary to demonstrate that habitable conditions can be maintained in the event of a toxic gas release, it is our intention to disable the system permanently. This will be accomplished as part of our normal design change process, under the provisions of 10 CFR 50.59. Since the chlorine detectors only provide an alarm function, there will be no other impact on the control room ventilation system.

Sincerely,



E. E. Fitzpatrick
Vice President

plt

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