



UNITED STATES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION V
230 SOUTH DEARBORN ST
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604



Mr. A. Schwencer, Chief
Licensing Branch No. 2
Division of Licensing
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

RE: NEPA-DE-NRC-F06015-OH
(82036)

Dear Mr. Schwencer:

We have completed our review of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Related to the Operation of Perry Nuclear Power Plant Units 1 and 2. The Perry Nuclear Power Plant is located on Lake Erie in Lake County, Ohio approximately 7 miles northeast of Painesville, Ohio. Both units will use boiling water reactors to produce 1250 megawatts of electricity each. Makeup water for the condenser cooling system will be obtained from Lake Erie via a submerged multiport capped intake. Cooling water will be recirculated through the condensers and two natural draft cooling towers will dissipate excess heat to the atmosphere. Blowdown and other nonradioactive wastes will be discharged to Lake Erie via a submerged diffuser located on the bottom of Lake Erie approximately one quarter of a mile offshore.

The cooling system for the Perry Nuclear Power Plant was originally designed with a once-through system with all the excess heat being dissipated through a discharge into Lake Erie. However, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency denied a 401 certification and the approval of 316(a) and (b) demonstration for the once-through cooling pursuant to the Federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1972. This certification denial resulted in the condenser cooling being redesigned to a closed cycle cooling system. This closed cycle system should reduce the impacts to the aquatic environment significantly.

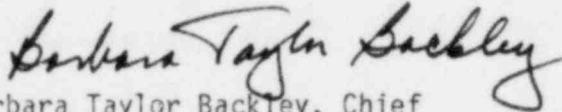
Proposed effluent discharges of nonradioactive wastes have been provided by the applicant to assess impacts on water quality. A formal application for a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit from the State of Ohio has not yet been applied for by the applicant. As noted in the draft EIS, the actual effluent releases will be constrained by the State of Ohio water quality standards and technology-based effluent limits established by our Agency. At the present time, effluent limits for Steam Electric Generating Stations have not been finalized. These effluent guidelines will be finalized in March of 1983. The final EIS should note and the applicant should be aware that these standards will apply to the Perry Nuclear Power Plant discharge.

We do not anticipate any additional adverse environmental impacts occurring within the field of our expertise. Therefore, in accordance with our responsibility under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, we have rated the

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EIS as LO-1 (Lack of Objection - sufficient information). A notice of the availability of our comments will be published in the Federal Register. We appreciate the opportunity to review this draft EIS. If you or your staff has any questions regarding our comments, please contact Mr. Bill Franz, at 886-6687 (FTS) or 312/886-6687 (Commercial).

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Taylor Backley". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Barbara Taylor Backley, Chief
Environmental Review Branch
Planning and Management Division