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August 2, 1983
EF2-64307

Mr. James G. Keppler, Regional Administrator
Region III
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
799 Roosevelt Road
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

Subject: Interim Report of 10CFR50.55(e) Item on
Possible ITE Circuit Breaker Failures (#87)

Dear Mr. Keppler:

This interim report involving ITE circuit breaker failures has been prepared to provide the current status of this problem.

This item was originally reported to Mr. P. Pelke of NRC Region III by Detroit Edison's Mr. D. Ferencz, Acting Supervisor - Construction Quality Assurance on March 4, 1983.

A memo received from the NRC, concerning Brown Boveri Electric, Inc. (formerly ITE) low voltage circuit breakers, described a problem involving a defective capacitor in the trip circuit which, upon failure, prevents the breaker from opening during an overcurrent condition. The failure of this capacitor and the trip device can result in failure to interrupt a fault.

The Edison Startup Organization has completed a survey of all solid state trip devices in the 480V switchgear at Fermi 2. The survey found one hundred thirty (130) devices equipped with a Type 40D capacitor, which has been found to degrade over time.

Detroit Edison is awaiting a shipment of replacement solid state trip devices from Brown Boveri Electric, Inc. for all one hundred thirty devices.

Another report on this item, either interim or final, will be sent when further information is available. If you have questions concerning this matter, please contact Mr. G. M. Trahey, Assistant Director - Project Quality Assurance.

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Very truly yours,

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DAW/WEM/pn

cc: Mr. Richard DeYoung, Director
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Mr. Paul Byron, Senior Resident Inspector
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