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February 24, 1984

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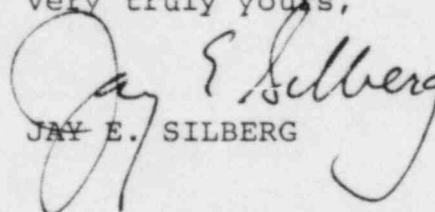
Mr. Glenn O. Bright
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Re: The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Co.
(Perry Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2)
Docket Nos. 50-440 and 50-441

Gentlemen:

Enclosed for your information is a press release issued on February 21 by The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company announcing that completion of Unit 1 of the Perry Nuclear Power Plant is now estimated for late 1985.

Very truly yours,


JAY E. SILBERG

Enclosure
cc: Service List (w/enc.)
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THE
ILLUMINATING
COMPANY

M-11

February 21, 1984

PUBLIC RELATIONS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CEI REPORTS ON PERRY CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS

The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company said it remains confident the first of the two units at the Perry Nuclear Power Plant will be completed in 1985. But CEI confirmed it would not meet its previous schedule to load fuel in Unit #1 in December, 1984.

Last week, a spokesman for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) described the December timetable as optimistic.

As to the cost impact, the company said there is sufficient cost contingency provided in the overall project budget to cover the delay.

CEI owns 31.1% of the project and will receive a corresponding percentage of the electricity generated. Ohio Edison, and its subsidiary Pennsylvania Power, own 35.2%, Duquesne Light, 13.7% and Toledo Edison, 19.9%.

The five companies serve some 2.5 million customers in an industrial crescent in northern and central Ohio and western Pennsylvania.

"Our regular monitoring of construction progress indicates that Perry Unit #1 is 93 percent complete and we had hoped to complete the unit in mid-1985. But some facets of the overall project are behind schedule," said Murray R. Edelman, Vice President-Nuclear. "Nonetheless, based on our most current information, we believe that Unit #1 will be completed in late 1985," he said.

Reaffirming the Company's commitment to quality, Edelman said, "We are determined to take the time necessary to make sure Perry is a safe and efficient plant. We are taking the time needed to do the job right the first time."

- more -

Edelman pointed out that Perry has received consistently high marks from all outside agencies. In December, the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board said the company's quality assurance program, "has prevented and will continue to prevent unsafe conditions at the plant."

A project the size of Perry, employing about 6500 workers representing many skills and trades is enormous in magnitude and complexity. The delay is attributed to a longer than planned time to install piping and electronic control circuitry, all of which must undergo rigorous and extensive testing before the plant can be declared ready for commercial operation.

Today's announcement was aimed at addressing reports in the media and the financial community regarding progress on the project.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Before the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board

In the Matter of)

THE CLEVELAND ELECTRIC)
ILLUMINATING COMPANY)

(Perry Nuclear Power Plant,)
Units 1 and 2)

Docket Nos. 50-440
50-441

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