

Public

January 29, 1997

P. M. Donnelly, Plant Manager
Big Rock Point Nuclear Plant
Consumers Power Company
10269 US 31 North
Charlevoix, MI 49720

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-155/96010(DRP)
NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Donnelly:

On November 29, 1996, the NRC completed an inspection at your Big Rock Point Nuclear Plant. The enclosed report presents the results of that inspection.

During this 6-week inspection period, the inspectors observed that operations, maintenance, engineering, and plant support activities were normally performed in a satisfactory manner. We are concerned, however, that five violations of NRC requirements were identified. The first violation is of concern because it involved a licensed senior operator who failed to recognize that closing an emergency condenser (EC) inlet valve rendered the associated EC tube bundle inoperable. The second violation, for an inadequate cold weather preparations procedure, is of concern because it involved a performance weakness previously identified by the NRC. The third violation is of concern because it involved the failure to perform a surveillance required by technical specifications (TS). The fourth and fifth violations, involving failures to implement radiological protection program and fire protection Technical Specifications, are of concern because they involve a continuing problem in the area of contractor control. As discussed in the attached report, and previously discussed in Inspection Report 50-155/95012, the NRC expects that your contractors' performance will be in full compliance with your license, its conditions, and our regulations.

The violations are cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation, and the circumstances surrounding the violations are described in detail in the enclosed report. Please note that you are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. The NRC will use your response, in part, to determine whether further enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

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P. M. Donnelly

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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosures, and your response will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR).

Sincerely,

/s/John A. Grobe for

James L. Caldwell, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No. 50-155
License No. DPR-6

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Violation
2. Inspection Report
No. 50-155/96010(DRP)

cc w/encl: Robert A. Fenech, Vice President,
Nuclear Operations
James R. Padgett, Michigan Public
Service Commission
Michigan Department of Public Health
Department of Attorney General (MI)

Docket File w/encl
BRP PM, NRR w/encl
SRI BRP, Palisades w/encl
A. B. Beach, w/encl
W. L. Axelson, w/encl
H. B. Clayton, w/encl

OC/LFDCB w/encl
DRP w/encl
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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION III
801 WARRENVILLE ROAD
LISLE, ILLINOIS 60532-4351

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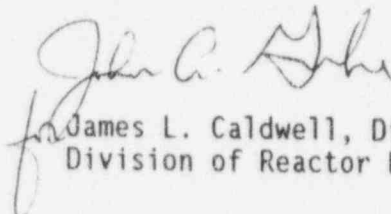
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P. M. Donnelly

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Sincerely,


for James L. Caldwell, Director
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Nuclear Operations
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Service Commission
Michigan Department of Public Health
Department of Attorney General (MI)