

August 11, 2000

Mr. John K. Wood
Vice President - Nuclear
FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company
P.O. Box 97, A200
Perry, OH 44081

SUBJECT: ASSESSMENT FOLLOW-UP - PERRY

Dear Mr. Wood:

On August 4, 2000, the NRC staff completed a review of the performance of the Perry Nuclear Power Plant as reflected in the performance indicators for the second quarter of 2000. Our review identified that you have crossed the threshold from GREEN to WHITE for the heat removal system unavailability performance indicator. Therefore, we plan to conduct an additional (supplemental) inspection to better understand the causes contributing to your decline in performance.

This letter is to inform you that we will be conducting Supplemental Inspection Procedure 95001 to examine the heat removal system unavailability performance issues. This inspection will be conducted during the month of September 2000. During this inspection, we will review the results of your evaluation and will conduct an independent assessment of the extent of the condition associated with any identified root causes.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available **electronically** for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room **or** from the *Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS)*. *ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/ADAMS/index.html>* (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Please contact me at 630/829-9866 with any questions you may have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Kozak, Chief
Reactor Projects Branch 4

Docket No. 50-440
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T. Rausch, Director,
Nuclear Engineering Department
R. Schrauder, General Manager,
Nuclear Power Plant Department
C. Glazer, State of Ohio
Public Utilities Commission
Ohio State Liaison Officer
R. Owen, Ohio Department of Health

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