



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

OCT 27 2016

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

E-19J

Cindy Bladey
Chief, Rules, Announcements, and Directives Branch
Division of Administrative Services
Office of Administration
Mail Stop: 16 3WFN-06-A44MP
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

**Re: Final Plant-Specific Supplement 56 to the Generic Environmental Impact
Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants Regarding Fermi 2 Nuclear Power
Plant, Monroe County, Michigan – CEQ #20160219**

Dear Ms. Bladey:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has reviewed the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the license renewal for the Fermi 2 Nuclear Power Plant (Fermi 2) prepared by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). Our comments are provided pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA Implementing Regulations (40 CFR 1500-1508), and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

Fermi 2 is a single-unit boiling water reactor located in Frenchtown Township, Michigan on the western shores of Lake Erie. The site also includes the permanently-shut-down Fermi 1 unit, auxiliary and support facilities, and part of the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge. DTE Energy Electric Company (the applicant) applied to the NRC to extend Fermi 2's operating license for an additional 20 years. No refurbishment activities associated with license renewal are proposed. NRC's preferred alternative is to grant the license renewal.

EPA provided comments on the Draft Supplemental EIS in December 2015. Our concerns focused on cumulative impacts to Lake Erie water quality. We also recommend several clarifications to improve the quality of the document.

We have reviewed the Final Supplemental EIS and NRC's response to our comments. We have no further comments and acknowledge that NRC cannot commit to recommended mitigation measures that are not related to nuclear security and safety. However, we continue to recommend mitigation measures be considered by the *applicant* to further protect water quality in the western basin of Lake Erie. We recommend the applicant continue to monitor lake temperatures and algal

blooms in the vicinity of the Fermi 2 outfalls and appropriately reduce the temperature of discharge.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this document. Please send us a copy of the Record of Decision/License Renewal, once available. If you have any questions or wish to discuss any aspect of this document, please contact Elizabeth Poole of my staff at 312-353-2087 or poole.elizabeth@epa.gov.

Sincerely,



Kenneth A. Westlake
Chief, NEPA Implementing Section
Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance

Cc: Elaine Keegan, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Phil Argiroff, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
DTE Energy Company, Detroit, Michigan