



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Office of Public Affairs

Telephone: 301/415-8200

Washington, DC 20555-001

E-mail: opa@nrc.gov

Web Site: <http://www.nrc.gov/OPA>

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NRC APPROVES TRANSFER OF OPERATING LICENSES FOR 20 NUCLEAR PLANTS

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has approved the transfer of operating licenses for 20 commercial nuclear power plants from Commonwealth Edison and PECO Energy Company to Exelon Generation Company.

Exelon is being formed in connection with the proposed merger of Unicom Corporation (Unicom), the parent of Commonwealth Edison, and PECO.

The 13 Commonwealth Edison units affected are all located in Illinois. They are **Braidwood** 1 and 2, near Joliet; **Byron** 1 and 2, near Rockford; **Dresden** 1 (permanently shut down) and Units 2 and 3, near Morris; **LaSalle** 1 and 2, near Ottawa; **Quad Cities** 1 and 2, near Moline; and the permanently shut down **Zion** 1 and 2, in Zion.

The PECO units affected are **Peach Bottom** 1 (permanently shut down) and Units 2 and 3, near Lancaster, Pennsylvania; **Limerick** 1 and 2, in Limerick, Pa. Also affected are **Salem** 1 and 2, in Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey, which are partially owned by PECO but operated by Public Service Electric & Gas Co.

Last December PECO and Commonwealth Edison submitted applications to the NRC requesting approval for the license transfers. The key issues considered by the NRC's technical staff included decommissioning funding, insurance and Exelon's technical and financial qualifications.

Notices of the requests for approval and for an opportunity for a hearing were published in the *Federal Register* on March 9. The Commission received no comments or hearing requests. The technical staff's approval becomes effective immediately.

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