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RS-01-079

April 16, 2001

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
ATTN: Document Control Desk  
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Braidwood Station, Units 1 and 2  
Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-72 and NPF-77  
NRC Docket Nos. STN 50-456 and STN 50-457

Byron Station, Units 1 and 2  
Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-37 and NPF-66  
NRC Docket Nos. STN 50-454 and STN 50-455

**Subject:** Additional Information Supporting the License Amendment Request to Permit  
Up-rated Power Operations at Byron and Braidwood Stations

- References:**
- (1) Letter from R. M. Krich (Commonwealth Edison Company) to U.S. NRC, "Request for a License Amendment to Permit Up-rated Power Operations at Byron and Braidwood Stations," dated July 5, 2000
  - (2) Letter from R. M. Krich (Exelon Generation Company, LLC) to U.S. NRC, "Additional Information Supporting the License Amendment Request to Permit Up-rated Power Operations at Byron and Braidwood Stations," dated April 5, 2001

In Reference 1, we submitted proposed changes to Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-72, NPF-77, NPF-37 and NPF-66, and Appendix A, Technical Specifications (TS), for Braidwood Station, Units 1 and 2, and Byron Station, Units 1 and 2, respectively. The proposed changes would revise the maximum power level specified in each unit's license and the TS definition of rated thermal power.

In Reference 2, we provided additional information regarding the calculation that addresses the maximum allowable time in which operators must direct some Emergency Core Cooling System (ECCS) recirculation flow to the Reactor Coolant System (RCS) hot legs (i.e., known as "Hot Leg Switch-Over" (HLSO)) during a Loss of Coolant Accident (LOCA) scenario to prevent boron precipitation in the reactor core. In summary, Reference 2 provided justification for maintaining the HLSO time at 8.5 hours which is the current value.

Upon review of this HLSO time justification, the NRC has indicated that an HLSO time of 8.5 hours is acceptable for operation of Byron Station and Braidwood Station under up-rated power

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conditions for a period of 18 months from the date of issuance of the power uprate license amendment. A subsequent HLSO time confirmatory analysis using an acceptable model will be performed by EGC and submitted to the NRC by June 1, 2002.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this information, please contact Mr. J. A. Bauer at (630) 663-7287.

Respectfully,



R. M. Krich  
Director – Licensing  
Mid-West Regional Operating Group

cc: Regional Administrator – NRC Region III  
NRC Senior Resident Inspector – Braidwood Station  
NRC Senior Resident Inspector – Byron Station  
Office of Nuclear Safety – Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety

STATE OF ILLINOIS )  
COUNTY OF DUPAGE )  
IN THE MATTER OF )  
EXELON GENERATION COMPANY, LLC ) Docket Numbers  
BYRON STATION UNITS 1 AND 2 ) STN 50-454 AND STN 50-455  
BRAIDWOOD STATION UNITS 1 AND 2 ) STN 50-456 AND STN 50-457

**SUBJECT: Additional Information Supporting the License Amendment Request to Permit Uprated Power Operations at Byron and Braidwood Stations**

**AFFIDAVIT**

I affirm that the content of this transmittal is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

  
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R. M. Krich  
Director – Licensing

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public in and

for the State above named, this 16<sup>th</sup> day of

April, 2001.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

