

Docket Nos. 50-237/249

Mr. Dennis L. Farrar
Director of Nuclear Licensing
Commonwealth Edison Company
Post Office Box 767
Chicago, Illinois 60690

Dear Mr. Farrar:

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT -
10 CFR 50.48 SCHEDULAR EXEMPTIONS (TAC 57324, 57325)

Re: Dresden Nuclear Power Station, Unit Nos. 2 and 3

I am enclosing the subject notice which relates to your submittal dated March 1, 1985, as supplemented by letters dated December 4, 1985, and March 12, April 18, May 30 and August 18, 1986 and January 30 and April 14, 1987, requesting schedular exemptions from the requirements of 10 CFR 50.48.

This notice is being forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

Daniel R. Muller, Director
Project Directorate III-2
Division of Reactor Projects - III,
IV, V, and Special Projects

Enclosure:
Notice

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August 13, 1987

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DMuller
5/ /87

OGC-Bethesda
R.L. Janner
7/2/87

August 13, 1987

Mr. Dennis L. Farrar
Commonwealth Edison Company

Dresden Nuclear Power Station
Units 2 and 3

cc:

Mr. Michael I. Miller
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Chicago, Illinois 60602

Mr. J. Eenigenburg
Plant Superintendent
Dresden Nuclear Power Station
Rural Route #1
Morris, Illinois 60450

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Resident Inspectors Office
Dresden Station
Rural Route #1
Morris, Illinois 60450

Chairman
Board of Supervisors of
Grundy County
Grundy County Courthouse
Morris, Illinois 60450

Regional Administrator
Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region III
799 Roosevelt Road
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

Mr. Michael E. Parker, Chief
Division of Engineering
Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety
1035 Outer Park Drive, 5th Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62704

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONCOMMONWEALTH EDISON COMPANYDOCKET NOS. 50-237/249ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of schedular exemptions from the requirements of 10 CFR 50.48 to the Commonwealth Edison Company (CECo) (the licensee) for the Dresden Nuclear Power Station, Unit Nos. 2 and 3, located at the licensee's site in Grundy County, Illinois.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTIdentification of the Proposed Action

The proposed action would grant schedular exemptions from requirements of 10 CFR 50.48 relating to the completion dates of modifications consisting mainly of additional suppression and detection and the upgrading of fire barriers and emergency lighting. These modifications were determined by the licensee to be necessary at Dresden during a reverification initiated in response to Commission clarification of Appendix R requirements.

The Need for the Proposed Action

When the reverification program indicated the need for additional modifications, necessary engineering and procurement were required by CECo. The magnitude of the work associated with the modifications is such that it does not allow the 10 CFR 50.48(c) schedule to be met. The exemptions are strictly schedular in that they allow the modification schedule to be extended, with interim compensatory measures in place which will provide the necessary fire protection, until the corresponding modifications are completed.

Environmental Impact of the Proposed Action:

The proposed action only affects the length of time for the required modifications to be completed. An environmental assessment was issued on March 31, 1986. The licensee submittals since that time have served to update the exemption request and reduce the number of schedular exemptions needed. Everything will be completed by August 1, 1987. The licensee has proposed interim compensatory measures to provide the necessary level of fire protection until the modifications are completed. Thus, fire-related radiological releases will not differ from those determined previously and the proposed exemption does not otherwise affect facility radiological effluent or occupational exposures. With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed exemption does not affect plant nonradiological effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes there are no measurable radiological or nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed exemption.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action:

Since the Commission has concluded there is no measurable environmental impact associated with the proposed exemption, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impact need not be evaluated. The principal alternative to the exemption would be to require rigid compliance with the 50.48(c)(4) requirements. Such action would not enhance the protection of the environment and would result in unjustified costs for the licensee.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action does not involve the use of resources not considered previously in the Final Environmental Statement for Dresden Units 2 and 3.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

The NRC staff reviewed the licensee's request and did not consult other agencies or persons.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Commission had determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed exemption. Based upon the environmental assessment, the NRC staff concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

For further details with respect to this proposed action, see the licensee's letter dated March 1, 1985, as supplemented by letters dated December 4, 1985, and March 12, April 18, May 30 and August 18, 1986 and January 30 and April 14, 1987. These letters are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. and at the Morris Public Library, 604 Liberty Street, Morris, Illinois 60451.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland this 13th day of August 1987

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Daniel R. Muller, Director
Project Directorate III-2
Division of Reactor Projects - III,
IV, V, and Special Projects