

July 9, 2002

Mr. John L. Skolds, President
Exelon Nuclear
Exelon Generation Company, LLC
4300 Winfield Road
Warrenville, IL 60555

SUBJECT: DRESDEN NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNITS 2 AND 3, ENVIRONMENTAL
ASSESSMENT FOR EXEMPTION FROM 10 CFR 55.59(c)
(TAC NOS. MB5515 AND MB5516)

Dear Mr. Skolds:

Enclosed is a copy of the Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact related to your application for exemption dated July 2, 2002, as supplemented on July 8, 2002. The proposed exemption would allow the licensed operator requalification examinations for the Dresden Nuclear Power Station, Units 2 and 3, to be rescheduled. The requested exemption for completing the licensed operator requalification comprehensive written examinations at Dresden Units 2 and 3 would extend the date to August 2, 2002.

The assessment is being forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Lawrence W. Rossbach, Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate III
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-237 and 50-249

Enclosure: Environmental Assessment

cc w/encl: See next page

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ADAMS Accession Number: ML021890133 *See previous concurrence

OFFICE	PM:PD3-2	LA:PD3-2	RLEP	OGC	SC:PD3-2
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DATE	07/09/02	07/09/02	07/08/02	07/09/02	07/09/02

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Dresden Nuclear Power Units 2 and 3

cc:

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONEXELON GENERATION COMPANY, LLCDOCKET NOS. 50-237 AND 50-249DRESDEN NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNITS 2 AND 3ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OFNO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is considering issuance of an exemption from Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 55, Section 55(c) for Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-19 and DPR-25, issued to Exelon Generation Company, LLC (the licensee), for operation of the Dresden Nuclear Power Station, Units 2 and 3 (Dresden), located in Morris, Illinois. Therefore, as required by 10 CFR 51.21, the NRC is issuing this environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTIdentification of the Proposed Action:

The proposed action would exempt the licensee on a one-time-only basis from the two-year requirement of 10 CFR 55.59(c) for conducting a comprehensive licensed operator requalification written examination at Dresden.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for exemption dated July 2, 2002, as supplemented by letter dated July 8, 2002.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed action would extend the date for the licensee to complete the licensed operator requalification comprehensive written examinations at Dresden. The proposed action would extend the date for completing the examinations to August 2, 2002, (extending the examination schedule to 30 months rather than the 24 months required by 10 CFR 55.59(c)).

The need for this proposed action arose due to the licensee erroneously scheduling the written examinations at an interval greater than the required 24 months.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The NRC has completed its evaluation of the proposed action and concludes, as set forth below, that there are no significant environmental impacts associated with the extension of the operator requalification examinations to August 2, 2002.

The proposed action will not significantly increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of effluents that may be released off site, and there is no significant increase in occupational or public radiation exposure. Therefore, there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed action does not have a potential to affect any historic sites. It does not affect nonradiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Accordingly, the NRC concludes that there are no significant environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Environmental Impacts of the Alternatives to the Proposed Action:

As an alternative to the proposed action, the staff considered denial of the proposed action (i.e., the "no-action" alternative). Denial of the application would result in no change in current environmental impacts. The environmental impacts of the proposed action and the alternative action are similar.

Alternative Use of Resources:

The action does not involve the use of any different resources than those previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement for Dresden, dated November 1973.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

On July 8, 2002, the staff consulted with the Illinois State official, Frank Niziolek of the Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety, regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

On the basis of this environmental assessment, the NRC concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the NRC has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed action.

For further details with respect to the proposed action, see the licensee's letter dated July 2, 2002, as supplemented by letter dated July 8, 2002. Documents may be examined, and/or copied for a fee, at the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR), located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland. Publicly available records will be accessible electronically from the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Public Electronic Reading Room on the internet at the NRC Web site, <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. Persons who do not have access to ADAMS or who encounter problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, should contact the NRC PDR Reference staff by telephone at 1-800-397-4209 or 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to pdr@nrc.gov.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 9th day of July, 2002.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

/RA/

Jon B. Hopkins, Acting Chief, Section 2
Project Directorate III
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation