

February 26, 2003

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

SUBJECT: LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR THE DRESDEN NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNITS 2 AND 3, AND QUAD CITIES NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2 - DETERMINATION OF ACCEPTABILITY AND SUFFICIENCY FOR DOCKETING, PROPOSED REVIEW SCHEDULE, AND OPPORTUNITY FOR A HEARING

Dear Mr. Skolds:

On January 3, 2003, the staff of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received the Exelon Generation Company's combined application for renewal of Operating Licenses DPR-19 and DPR-25 for the Dresden Nuclear Power Station, Units 2 and 3, respectively, and for renewal of Operating Licenses DPR-29 and DPR-30 for the Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station, Units 1 and 2, respectively. Notice of receipt of this application was published in the *Federal Register* on January 30, 2003 (68 FR 4800).

The NRC staff has determined that the Exelon Generation Company has submitted sufficient information that is acceptable for docketing, in accordance with 10 CFR 54.19, 54.21, 54.22, 54.23, and 51.53(c). However, the NRC staff's determination does not preclude requests for additional information as the review proceeds.

This letter forwards the staff's safety and environmental review schedule for the subject application (Enclosure 1). The staff will follow established review procedures and the enclosed schedule to complete the safety and environmental reviews required by 10 CFR Parts 54 and 51, respectively. This schedule has been established in accordance with a 30-month review plan, which includes time to conduct a hearing, should a hearing be requested and granted. Milestones for hearing activities are not included in the enclosed schedule because those dates are established by the Commission and the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board.

I would like to stress that this is a very ambitious schedule considering that the NRC staff has eight other license renewal applications currently under review. Nevertheless, the NRC staff will make every effort to meet the milestones. We, therefore, request that you inform the NRC staff as early as possible should potential delays arise in your support of our review schedule.

Finally, we have enclosed, for your information, a copy of the notice relating to your application that is being sent to the Office of the Federal Register for publication (Enclosure 2). This notice provides, in accordance with the provisions of 10 CFR 2.105, the opportunity to request a hearing and to file a petition for leave to intervene.

J. Skolds

- 2 -

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at 301-415-1392 (e-mail: TJK3@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Tae Kim, Senior Project Manager  
License Renewal Section  
License Renewal and Environmental Impacts Program  
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos.: 50-237, 50-249, 50-254, and 50-265

Enclosures: As stated

cc w/enclosures: See next page

J. Skolds

- 2 -

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\*See previous concurrences

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OFFICE	LA:RLEP	PM:RLEP	SC:RLEP	OGC	PD:RLEP
NAME	PCoates*	TJKim	SLee	AFernandez*	PTKuo
DATE	02/ 21 /03	02/26 /03	02/26 /03	02/ 24 /03	02/26 /03

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RLEP RF

T. Kim

**E-MAIL:**

PUBLIC

W. Borchardt

D. Matthews

F. Gillespie

RidsNrrDe

R. Barrett

E. Imbro

G. Bagchi

K. Manoly

W. Bateman

J. Calvo

C. Holden

H. Nieh

G. Holahan

H. Walker

S. Black

B. Boger

D. Thatcher

G. Galletti

C. Li

J. Moore

R. Weisman

M. Mayfield

A. Murphy

W. McDowell

S. Smith (srs3)

T. Kobetz

R. Assa

C. Munson

RLEP Staff

-----

L. Rossbach

C. Lyon

M. Ring, RIII

**LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION REVIEW SCHEDULE  
FOR  
DRESDEN AND QUAD CITIES**

<u>MILESTONE</u>	<u>SCHEDULE DATE</u>
Receive license renewal application	1/3/03
Federal Register Notice (FRN) published for receipt & acceptability review	2/3/03
FRN published for acceptance/rejection/opportunity for hearing	3/4/03
FRN published for intent/environmental scoping meeting (Dresden)	3/14/03
FRN published for intent/environmental scoping meeting (Quad Cities)	3/14/03
Deadline for filing hearing requests & petitions for intervention	4/3/03
Environmental scoping meeting (Quad Cities)	4/8/03
Environmental scoping meeting (Dresden)	4/10/03
Environmental scoping period ends (Quad Cities)	5/12/03
Environmental scoping period ends (Dresden)	5/12/03
Environmental requests for additional info. (RAIs) issued (Quad Cities)	5/23/03
Environmental requests for additional info. (RAIs) issued (Dresden)	5/30/03
Safety Scoping and Screening Methodology Audit Complete	6/2/03
Environmental RAIs responses received (Quad Cities)	7/18/03
Environmental RAIs responses received (Dresden)	7/25/03
Safety Scoping Inspection Complete	8/7/03
Safety RAIs issued	8/7/03
Responses to Safety RAIs received	10/6/03
Aging management review Inspections Complete	10/24/03
Draft supplemental environ. Impact statement (SEIS) issued (Quad Cities)/ FRN published for availability/comment on draft SEIS	11/7/03
Draft supplemental environ. Impact statement (SEIS) issued (Dresden)/ FRN published for availability/comment on draft SEIS	12/5/03
Public Meeting to Discuss draft SEIS (Quad Cities)	12/10/03
Public Meeting to Discuss draft SEIS (Dresden)	1/14/04
End of draft SEIS comment period (Quad Cities)	1/31/04
Safety evaluation report (SER) with open items issued	2/16/04
End of draft SEIS comment period (Dresden)	2/21/04
ACRS Subcommittee meeting on SER with open items	4/04
ACRS Full committee meeting on SER with open items	4/04
Response to SER with open items received	4/16/04
Optional Final Inspection complete	6/25/04
Final SEIS issued (Quad Cities)/ FRN published for availability of final SEIS	7/9/04
Final SEIS issued (Dresden)/ FRN published for availability of final SEIS	7/9/04
SER issued	7/26/04
Regional Administrator's Letter issued	8/25/04
ACRS SubCommittee meeting on SER	9/04
ACRS Full Committee meeting on SER	9/04
ACRS Letter	9/04
Commission Paper w/Staff Recommendation	4/6/05
Commission Decision	7/7/05

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
EXELON GENERATION COMPANY, LLC  
DRESDEN NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNITS 2 AND 3  
QUAD CITIES NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2  
NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE FOR DOCKETING OF APPLICATION AND NOTICE OF  
OPPORTUNITY FOR A HEARING REGARDING RENEWAL OF  
FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NOS. DPR-19, DPR-25, DPR-29, AND DPR-30  
FOR AN ADDITIONAL 20-YEAR PERIOD  
DOCKET NOS. 50-237, 50-249, 50-254, AND 50-265

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or Commission) is considering an application for the renewal of Operating License Nos. DPR-19, DPR-25, DPR-29, and DPR-30 for the Dresden Nuclear Power Station, Units 2 and 3, and the Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station, Units 1 and 2, respectively. Renewal of the licenses would authorize the applicant to operate each of the facilities for an additional 20 years beyond the period specified in the current operating licenses period. The current operating licenses for the Dresden Nuclear Power Station, Units 2 and 3, expire on December 22, 2009, and January 12, 2011, respectively. Both of the current operating licenses for the Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station, Units 1 and 2, expire on December 14, 2012.

On January 3, 2003, the Commission received an application from the Exelon Generation Company, LLC, filed pursuant to Section 104b of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, and 10 CFR Part 54, to renew Operating License Nos. DPR-19, DPR-25, DPR-29, and DPR-30 for the Dresden Nuclear Power Station, Units 2 and 3, and the Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station, Units 1 and 2, respectively. A Notice of Receipt of Application, "Exelon

Generation Company, LLC; Dresden Nuclear Power Station, Units 2 and 3; Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station, Units 1 and 2; Notice of Receipt of Application for Renewal of Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-19, DPR-25, DPR-29, and DPR-30 for an additional 20-year period,” was published in the FEDERAL REGISTER on January 30, 2003, (68 FR 4800).

The Commission’s staff (the staff) has determined that the Exelon Generation Company has submitted information in accordance with 10 CFR 54.19, 54.21, 54.22, 54.23, and 51.53(c) that is complete and acceptable for docketing. The current Docket Nos. 50-237, 50-249, 50-254, and 50-265 for Operating License Nos. DPR-19, DPR-25, DPR-29, and DPR-30, respectively will be retained. The docketing of the renewal application does not preclude requesting additional information as the review proceeds, nor does it predict whether the Commission will grant or deny the application.

Before issuance of each requested renewed license, the Commission will have made the findings required by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission’s rules and regulations. In accordance with 10 CFR 54.29, the Commission will issue a renewed license on the basis of its review if it finds that actions have been identified and have been or will be taken with respect to (1) managing the effects of aging during the period of extended operation on the functionality of structures and components that have been identified as requiring aging management review, and (2) time-limited aging analyses that have been identified as requiring review, such that there is reasonable assurance that the activities authorized by the renewed license will continue to be conducted in accordance with the current licensing basis (CLB) and that any changes made to the plant’s CLB comply with the Act and the Commission’s regulations.

Additionally, in accordance with 10 CFR 51.95(c), the Commission will prepare an environmental impact statement that is a supplement to NUREG-1437, “Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Power Plants” (May 1996). Pursuant to

10 CFR 51.26, and as part of the environmental scoping process, the staff intends to hold public scoping meetings. Detailed information regarding these meetings will be included in a future FEDERAL REGISTER notice. The Commission also intends to hold public meetings to discuss the license renewal process and the schedule for conducting the review. The Commission will provide prior notice of these meetings. As discussed further herein, in the event that a hearing is held, issues that may be litigated will be confined to those pertinent to the foregoing.

Within 30 days from the date of publication of this FEDERAL REGISTER notice, the applicant may file a request for a hearing, and any person whose interest may be affected by this proceeding and who wishes to participate as a party in the proceeding must file a written request for a hearing and a petition for leave to intervene with respect to the renewal of the licenses in accordance with the provisions of 10 CFR 2.714.

The most recent version of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, published January 1, 2002, inadvertently omitted the last sentence of 10 CFR 2.714(d) and subparagraphs (d)(1) and (2), regarding petitions to intervene and contentions. Those provisions are extant and still applicable to petitions to intervene. Those provisions are as follows:

In all other circumstances, such ruling body or officer shall, in ruling on--

(1) A petition for leave to intervene or a request for hearing, consider the following factors, among other things: (i) The nature of the petitioner's right under the Act to be made a party to the proceeding. (ii) The nature and extent of the petitioner's property, financial, or other interest in the proceeding. (iii) The possible effect of any order that may be entered in the proceeding on the petitioner's interest.



(2) The admissibility of a contention, refuse to admit a contention if: (i) The contention and supporting material fail to satisfy the requirements of paragraph (b)(2) of this section; or (ii) The contention, if proven, would be of no consequence in the proceeding because it would not entitle petitioner to relief.

Interested persons should consult a current copy of 10 CFR 2.714, which is available at the Commission's Public Document Room (PDR), 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor) Rockville, Maryland, and on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov> (the Public Electronic Reading Room). If a request for a hearing or a petition for leave to intervene is filed by the above date, the Commission or an Atomic Safety and Licensing Board designated by the Commission will rule on the request(s) and/or petition(s), and the Secretary or the designated Atomic Safety and Licensing Board will issue a notice of hearing or an appropriate order. In the event that no request for a hearing or petition for leave to intervene is filed by the above date, the Commission may, upon completion of its evaluations and upon making the findings required under 10 CFR Parts 51 and 54, renew the licenses without further notice.

As required by 10 CFR 2.714, a petition for leave to intervene shall set forth, with particularity, the interest of the petitioner in the proceeding and how that interest may be affected by the results of the proceeding, taking into consideration the limited scope of matters that may be considered pursuant to 10 CFR Parts 51 and 54. The petition must specifically explain the reasons why intervention should be permitted with particular reference to the following factors: (1) the nature of the petitioner's right under the Act to be made a party to the proceeding, (2) the nature and extent of the petitioner's property, financial, or other interest in the proceeding, and (3) the possible effect of any order that may be entered in the proceeding on the petitioner's interest. The petition must also identify the specific aspect(s) of the subject matter of the proceeding as to which petitioner wishes to intervene. Any person who has filed a petition for leave to intervene or who has been admitted as a party may amend the petition

without requesting leave of the board up to 15 days before the first prehearing conference scheduled in the proceeding, but such an amended petition must satisfy the specific requirements described above.

Not later than 15 days before the first prehearing conference scheduled in the proceeding, a petitioner shall file a supplement to the petition to intervene that must include a list of the contentions that the petitioner seeks to have litigated in the hearing. Each contention must consist of a specific statement of the issue of law or fact to be raised or controverted. In addition, the petitioner shall provide a brief explanation of the bases of each contention and a concise statement of the alleged facts or the expert opinion that supports the contention and on which the petitioner intends to rely in proving the contention at the hearing. The petitioner must also provide references to those specific sources and documents of which the petitioner is aware and on which the petitioner intends to rely to establish those facts or expert opinion. The petitioner must provide sufficient information to show that a genuine dispute exists with the applicant on a material issue of law or fact. Contentions shall be limited to matters within the scope of the action under consideration. The contention must be one that, if proven, would entitle the petitioner to relief. A petitioner who fails to file such a supplement that satisfies these requirements with respect to at least one contention will not be permitted to participate as a party.

Those permitted to intervene become parties to the proceeding, subject to any limitations in the order granting leave to intervene, and have the opportunity to participate fully in the conduct of the hearing, including the opportunity to present evidence and cross-examine witnesses.

Requests for a hearing and petitions for leave to intervene must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, Attention: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff, or may be delivered to the

Commission's PDR, located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland, by the above date. Because of the continuing disruptions in delivery of mail to United States Government offices, it is requested that petitions for leave to intervene and requests for hearing be transmitted to the Secretary of the Commission either by means of facsimile transmission to 301-415-1101 or by e-mail to [hearingdocket@nrc.gov](mailto:hearingdocket@nrc.gov). A copy of the request for leave to intervene and request for hearing should also be sent to the Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, and, because of continuing disruptions in delivery of mail to United States Government offices, it is requested that copies be transmitted either by means of facsimile transmission to 301-415-3725 or by e-mail to [OGCMailCenter@nrc.gov](mailto:OGCMailCenter@nrc.gov). A copy of the request for hearing and petition for leave to intervene should also be sent to Mr. John L. Skolds, President and Chief Nuclear Officer, Exelon Generation Company, LLC, 4300 Winfield Road, Warrenville, IL 60555.

Nontimely filings of petitions for leave to intervene, amended petitions, supplemental petitions, and/or requests for a hearing will not be entertained absent a determination by the Commission, the presiding officer, or the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board that the petition and/or request should be granted based upon a balancing of the factors specified in 10 CFR 2.714(a)(1)(i)-(v) and 2.714(d).

Detailed information about the license renewal process can be found on the Commission's Web page at <http://www.nrc.gov>. A copy of the application is available for public inspection at the Commission's PDR, located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland, or electronically from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) under accession number ML030090359. The ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room is accessible from the NRC web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. In addition, the application is available on the NRC web page at

<http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal/applications.html>, while the application is under review. The staff has verified that a copy of the license renewal application is also available to local residents near the Dresden Nuclear Power Station at the Morris Public Library in Morris, Illinois, and at the Coal City Public Library in Coal City, Illinois. For local residents near the Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station, the license renewal application is available at the River Valley District Library in Port Byron, Illinois, the Cordova District Library in Cordova, Illinois, and at the Davenport Public Library in Davenport, Iowa.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 26<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2003.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

***/RA/***

Pao-Tsin Kuo, Program Director  
License Renewal and Environmental Impacts  
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

## Dresden and Quad Cities Nuclear Power Stations

cc:

Site Vice President - Quad Cities Nuclear  
Power Station  
Exelon Generation Company, LLC  
22710 206th Avenue N.  
Cordova, IL 61242-9740

Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station Plant  
Manager  
Exelon Generation Company, LLC  
22710 206th Avenue N.  
Cordova, IL 61242-9740

Regulatory Assurance Manager - Quad Cities  
Exelon Generation Company, LLC  
22710 206th Avenue N.  
Cordova, IL 61242-9740

Quad Cities Resident Inspectors Office  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
22712 206th Avenue N.  
Cordova, IL 61242

William D. Leech  
Manager - Nuclear  
MidAmerican Energy Company  
P.O. Box 657  
Des Moines, IA 50303

Vice President - Law and Regulatory Affairs  
MidAmerican Energy Company  
One River Center Place  
106 E. Second Street  
P.O. Box 4350  
Davenport, IA 52808

Chairman  
Rock Island County Board of Supervisors  
1504 3rd Avenue  
Rock Island County Office Bldg.  
Rock Island, IL 61201

Regional Administrator  
U.S. NRC, Region III  
801 Warrenville Road  
Lisle, IL 60532-4351

Document Control Desk-Licensing  
Exelon Generation Company, LLC  
4300 Winfield Road  
Warrenville, IL 60555

Senior Vice President - Nuclear Services  
Exelon Generation Company, LLC  
4300 Winfield Road  
Warrenville, IL 60555

Vice President  
Mid-West Operations Support  
Exelon Generation Company, LLC  
4300 Winfield Road  
Warrenville, IL 60555

Senior Vice President  
Mid-West Regional Operating Group  
Exelon Generation Company, LLC  
4300 Winfield Road  
Warrenville, IL 60555

Director - Licensing  
Mid-West Regional Operating Group  
Exelon Generation Company, LLC  
4300 Winfield Road  
Warrenville, IL 60555

Senior Counsel, Nuclear  
Mid-West Regional Operating Group  
Exelon Generation Company, LLC  
4300 Winfield Road  
Warrenville, IL 60555

Manager Licensing - Dresden and Quad Cities  
Exelon Generation Company, LLC  
4300 Winfield Road  
Warrenville, IL 60555

Robert E. Stachniak  
Sr. Engineer - License Renewal Prog.  
Exelon Generation Company, LLC  
4300 Winfield Road  
Warrenville, IL 60555

Mr. Alan P. Nelson  
Nuclear Energy Institute  
1776 I Street, N.W., Suite 400  
Washington, DC 20006-3708

Frederick W. Polaski  
Manager - License Renewal Program  
Exelon Generation Company, LLC  
200 Exelon Way, KSA 1-N-3  
Kennett Square, PA 19348

Site Vice President - Dresden Nuclear  
Power Station  
Exelon Generation Company, LLC  
6500 N. Dresden Road  
Morris, IL 60450-9765

Dresden Nuclear Power Station Plant  
Manager  
Exelon Generation Company, LLC  
6500 N. Dresden Road  
Morris, IL 60450-9765

Regulatory Assurance Manager - Dresden  
Exelon Generation Company, LLC  
6500 N. Dresden Road  
Morris, IL 60450-9765

Dresden Resident Inspectors Office  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
6500 N. Dresden Road  
Morris, IL 60450-9766

Chairman  
Grundy County Board  
Administration Building  
1320 Union Street  
Morris, IL 60450

Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety  
Office of Nuclear Facility Safety  
1035 Outer Park Drive  
Springfield, IL 62704

Vice President - Licensing and  
Regulatory Affairs  
Exelon Generation Company, LLC  
4300 Winfield Road  
Warrenville, IL 60555