

April 20, 2004

Mr. Christopher M. Crane
President and Chief Nuclear Officer
Exelon Nuclear
Exelon Generation Company, LLC
Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station and
Dresden Nuclear Power Station
4300 Winfield Road
Warrenville, IL 60555

SUBJECT: COMMITMENTS AND INFORMATION RELATED TO THE EXTENDED POWER
UPRATE AT DRESDEN AND QUAD CITIES NUCLEAR POWER STATIONS

Dear Mr. Crane:

This refers to Exelon Generation Company, LLC (EGC), Letter RS-04-054, dated April 2, 2004, which provides your commitments regarding operation of the Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station Units 1 and 2 at extended power uprate (EPU) conditions. Your commitments included receiving NRC approval prior to continuous operation of Quad Cities Units 1 or 2 above pre-EPU power level (2511 MWt). Attachment 1 to your letter provided a plan for conducting testing and analysis of flow effects at Quad Cities Units 1 and 2. Additionally, Attachment 2 provided the basis for continued operation of Dresden Nuclear Power Station Units 2 and 3 at EPU conditions.

The NRC staff has conducted a preliminary review of the information in your April 2 letter regarding the commitments related to resumption of long-term EPU operation of the Quad Cities units and the basis for continued long-term EPU operation of the Dresden units. Although we have no problem with your proceeding as described in your April 2 letter, the staff has identified concerns with your plans to justify long-term EPU operation of the Quad Cities units and your summary basis for continued long-term EPU operation of the Dresden units. For example, your April 2 letter did not indicate that you will identify the loads (forcing function) that are causing the steam dryer damage during EPU operation at the Quad Cities units. Further, the test plan in Attachment 1 to your April 2 letter for obtaining EPU data at the Quad Cities units did not make clear that sufficient types of data will be collected for adequate assessment of the dynamic loading on the steam dryer, and other plant components, including possible fluid structure interactions. Finally, the summary of your basis for continued operation of the Dresden units at EPU conditions in Attachment 2 to your April 2 letter did not provide a quantitative technical assessment of the potential loadings and resulting stresses that could cause failure of the Dresden steam dryers, or other plant components. We look forward to discussing these concerns with your staff shortly.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Mark Ring of my staff at (630) 829-9703.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, and any responses you provide will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records System (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Sincerely,

/RA by Patrick L. Hiland Acting for/

Steven A. Reynolds, Acting Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 50-237; 50-249; 50-254; 50-265
License Nos. DPR-19; DRP-25; DPR-29; DPR-30

cc: Site Vice President - Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station
Site Vice President - Dresden Nuclear Power Station
Dresden Nuclear Power Station Plant Manager
Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station Plant Manager
Regulatory Assurance Manager - Quad Cities
Regulatory Assurance Manager - Dresden
Chief Operating Officer
Senior Vice President - Nuclear Services
Senior Vice President - Mid-West Regional
Operating Group
Vice President - Mid-West Operations Support
Vice President - Licensing and Regulatory Affairs
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