

June 29, 2004

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

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE FINAL PLANT-SPECIFIC
SUPPLEMENT 17 TO THE GENERIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
STATEMENT (GEIS) REGARDING LICENSE RENEWAL FOR DRESDEN
NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 2 AND 3 (TAC NOS. MB6843 AND MB6844)

Dear Mr. Skolds:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has completed the plant-specific Supplement 17 to NUREG-1437, "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants," regarding the renewal of operating licenses DPR-19 and DPR-25 for the Dresden Nuclear Power Station, Units 2 and 3, for an additional 20 years of operation. Enclosed is a copy of the final report and the associated *Federal Register* Notice of Availability. This notice advises the public that the final report is available for public inspection at the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room). In addition, the Morris Area Public Library, located at 604 West Liberty Street, Morris, Illinois; and the Coal City Public Library District, located at 85 North Garfield Street, Coal City, Illinois, have agreed to make the final supplement available for public inspection.

As discussed in Section 9.3 of this report, the staff recommends that the Commission determine that the adverse environmental impacts of license renewal for the Dresden Nuclear Power Station, Units 2 and 3 are not so great that preserving the option of license renewal for energy planning decision makers would be unreasonable. This recommendation is based on: (1) the analysis and findings in the GEIS; (2) the Environmental Report submitted by Exelon; (3) consultation with Federal, State, and local agencies; (4) the staff's own independent review; and (5) the staff's consideration of public comments.

J. Skolds

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A separate notice of filing of the final environmental impact statement will be placed in the *Federal Register* through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact the NRC Environmental Project Manager, James Wilson, at 301-415-1108 or by e-mail at jhw1@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

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

Docket Nos: 50-237 and 50-249

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/encl: See next page

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NAME	JDavis	YEdmonds	JWilson	JTappert
DATE	06/7/04	06/3/04	06/3/04	06/4/04

OFFICE	OGC (NLO)	RLEP:DRIP:PD
NAME	TSmith	PTKuo
DATE	06/4/04	06/29/04

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
EXELON GENERATION COMPANY, LLC
DRESDEN NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNITS 2 AND 3
DOCKET NOS. 50-237 and 50-249
NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE FINAL SUPPLEMENT 17 TO GENERIC
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR THE
LICENSE RENEWAL OF DRESDEN NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNITS 2 AND 3

Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has published a final plant-specific supplement to the Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS), NUREG-1437, regarding the renewal of operating licenses DPR-19 and DPR-25 for an additional 20 years of operation at Dresden Nuclear Power Station (DNPS). DNPS is located in Goose Lake Township, Grundy County, Illinois, adjacent to the Illinois River at the confluence of the Des Plaines and Kankakee Rivers. Possible alternatives to the proposed action (license renewal) include no action and reasonable alternative energy sources.

Section 9.3 of the final supplement 17 states:

Based on (1) the analysis and findings in the GEIS (NRC 1996; 1999); (2) the ER [Environmental Report] submitted by Exelon (Exelon 2003b); (3) consultation with Federal, State, and local agencies; (4) the staff's own independent review; and (5) the staff's consideration of the public comments, the recommendation of the staff is that the Commission determine that the adverse environmental impacts of license renewal for Dresden Units 2 and 3 are not so great that preserving the option of license renewal for energy planning decision makers would be unreasonable.

The final Supplement 17 to the GEIS is available for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR) located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland, or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room). Persons who do not have access to ADAMS, or who encounter problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, should contact the PDR reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to pdrr@nrc.gov. In addition, the Morris Area Public Library, located at 604 West Liberty Street, Morris, Illinois; and the Coal City Public Library District, located at 85 North Garfield Street, Coal City, Illinois, have agreed to make the final plant-specific supplement to the GEIS available for public inspection.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Mr. James H. Wilson, License Renewal and Environmental Impacts Program, Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555. Mr. Wilson may be contacted at 301-415-1108 or jhw1@nrc.gov.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 29th day of June, 2004.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

/RA/

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

Dresden Combined List

cc:

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

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

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

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

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

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 Regional Operating Group
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

Vice President - Licensing and Regulatory Affairs
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

Ms. Jolene Franciskovich
Director
Coal City Public Library District
85 North Garfield Street
Coal City, IL 60416

Dresden Combined List

cc:

Ms. Deborah Steffes
Reference Manager
Morris Area Public Library
604 West Liberty Street
Morris, IL 60450

William D. Maher
License Renewal Environmental Lead
Exelon Nuclear
200 Exelon Way
Kennett Square, PA 19348

Frederick W. Polaski
License Renewal Manager
Exelon Nuclear
200 Exelon Way
Kennett Square, PA 19348

Albert A. Fulvio
Exelon Nuclear
200 Exelon Way
Kennett Square, PA 19348

Mitch Bailey
273 South Broadway
Coal City, IL 60416

Fred Bourdelais
225 East North Street
Coal City, IL 60416

Thomas J. Connor
245 Robinson Drive
Morris, IL 60450

Millie Dyer
Grundy County Administration
1320 Union Street
Morris, IL 60450

Benjamin Kosiek
2941 Archer Ave
Chicago, IL 60608

Patrick O'Conner
4231 North Damen
Chicago, IL 60618

Tom Osmonson
30 North Blackstone
Coal City, IL 60416

Cecil Pinder
1129 Elm Drive
New Lenox, IL 60451

Alfie Rodriguez
3550 Bass Court
Morris, IL 60450

Robert Schwartz
304 North Brookshore
Shorewood, IL 60431

Frederic D. Bevington
109 Sean Drive
Morris, IL 60450

Lee Fatlan
533 Edgewater Drive
Morris, IL 60450

Ann Gill
271 South Broadway
Coal City, IL 60416

Jeff Hettrick
700 West Foech Street
Streator, IL 61364

JoAnn Hustis
Morris Daily Herald
1804 North Division Street
Morris, IL 60450

Theresa & George Kern
8640 East Mallard Lane
Wilmington, IL 60481

Jennifer Shaw
101 West Illinois Ave
Morris, IL 60450

Mary M. Tano
201 West 10th Street
Lockport, IL 60441

Dresden Combined List

cc:

Ms. Cynthia Sauer
4730 East Minooka Road
Minooka, Illinois 60447

Tomy Ulatowski
904 Cottage Street
Shorewood, IL 60431

John M. Almer
Grundy County Board
1320 Union Street
Morris, IL 60450

Paul Nelson
Grundy County Board
1320 Union Street
Morris, IL 60450

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

Robert D. Schulz
Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety
1035 Outer Park Drive
Springfield, IL 62704

Larry Coyle
Exelon Generation Company, LLC
6500 N. Dresden Road
Morris, IL 60450-9765

Leo Middleton, Acting, Mayor
515 South Broadway
Coal City, IL 60416

Ernest Mooney, Village Administrator
515 South Broadway
Coal City, IL 60416

Mr. Maynard Crossland
Director
Illinois Historic Preservation Agency
Preservation Services Division
One Old State Capitol Plaza
Springfield, IL 62701

The Honorable Troy Swallow, President
Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin
P.O. Box 667
Black River Falls, WI 54615

The Honorable John Blackhawk,
Chairperson
Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska
P.O. Box 687
Winnebago, NE 68071

The Honorable Steve Cadue,
Chairperson
Kickapoo Tribe of Indians of the
Kickapoo Reservation in Kansas
Horton, KS 66439

The Honorable Danny Kaskaske,
Chairperson
Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma
P.O. Box 70
McCloud, OK 74851

The Honorable Lisa Waukau,
Chairperson
Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin
P.O. Box 910
Keshena, WI 54135-0910

The Honorable Zachariah Pahmahmie,
Chairperson
Prairie Band of Potawatomi Nation, Kansas
16281 Q Road
Mayetta, KS 66509

The Honorable John A. Barrett,
Chairperson
Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Oklahoma
1901 S. Gordon Cooper Drive
Shawnee, OK 74801

The Honorable John Miller, Chairperson
Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians,
Michigan and Indiana
P.O. Box 180
58620 Sink Road
Dowagiac, MI 49047

Dresden Combined List

cc:

The Honorable David K. Sprague, Chairperson
Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of
Potawatomi Indians of Michigan
P.O. Box 218
Dorr, MI 49323

The Honorable Gil Holliday, Chairperson
Huron Potawatomi, Inc., Michigan
2221 & 1 -1/2 Mile Road
Fulton, MI 49052

The Honorable Harold Frank, Chairperson
Forest County Potawatomi Community,
Wisconsin
P.O. Box 340
Crandon, WI 54520

The Honorable Juan Garcan Jr., Provisional
Chairperson
Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas
HC1, Box 9700
Eagle Pass, TX 78852

The Honorable Kenneth Meshigaud,
Chairperson
Hannahville Indian Community
N14911 Hannahville, B1 Rd.
Wilson, MI 49896-9728

Mr. Rick Nelson
Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
4469 48th Ave Court
Rock Island, IL 61201