

August 24, 2004

SVP-04-068

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station, Unit 1
Facility Operating License No. DPR-29
NRC Docket No. 50-254

Subject: Commitment to Communicate Decision to Continue Efforts to Locate and Retrieve Missing Dryer Material

Reference: Letter from T. J. Tulon (Exelon Generation Company, LLC) to U. S. NRC, "Commitment to Communicate Decision as to Whether to Continue Efforts to Locate and Retrieve Missing Dryer Material," dated January 22, 2004

In November 2003, Exelon Generation Company, LLC (EGC) completed inspections of the Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station Unit 1 steam dryer. During these inspections, EGC identified that a portion of the steam dryer outer hood bank was missing. Inspections performed prior to unit startup failed to locate the missing dryer material.

In the referenced letter, EGC committed to communicate our decision regarding efforts to locate and retrieve the missing dryer material. EGC has decided to continue these efforts during the upcoming Unit 1 refueling outage, currently scheduled for March 2005.

As noted in the referenced letter, the previous inspections to locate the missing dryer material were comprehensive, covering such areas as: steam separator, annulus region, recirculation system suction piping, jet pumps, portions of the main steam piping, turbine stop valve strainers, and the steam equalizing header (i.e., "D-Ring"). During these inspections, EGC identified impact indications on the 1B recirculation pump, which indicate the dryer material may have passed through the recirculation system into the bottom head region. Following unit startup, Unit 1 vessel bottom head drain temperature trended down, indicating the possible presence of foreign material. Based on these indications, EGC has concluded that the most probable location for the lost dryer material is in the bottom head region of the reactor vessel near the bottom head drain. Therefore, our actions to locate and retrieve the missing dryer material will be focused in this region.

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Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Mr. Wally Beck at (309) 227-2800.

Respectfully,

original signed by

Timothy J. Tulon
Site Vice President
Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station

Attachment

cc: Regional Administrator - NRC Region III
NRC Senior Resident Inspector - Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station