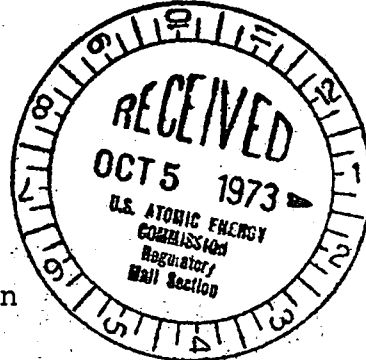




UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

50-237  
50-249



OFFICE OF THE  
ADMINISTRATOR

OCT 5 1973

Mr. L. Manning Muntzing  
Director of Regulation  
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20545

Dear Mr. Muntzing:

Reference is made to our comments on the Dresden Nuclear Power Plant dated September 13, 1973. One part of the section of our letter on Thermal Effects is in error and should be corrected. The part of concern begins with the last paragraph on page 9 and continues through the first paragraph on page 10. The following constitutes a correction and we have underlined the changed sentences for ease of identification:

At the present time the upstream temperatures on the Des Plaines River are sufficiently high during some periods of the year that the operation of the Dresden Nuclear Power Plant as planned will probably violate the Water Pollution Regulations for the State of Illinois, which constitute existing federally approved water quality standards. These standards presently apply to the Des Plaines and Illinois Rivers and require the following temperatures not to be exceeded: January, February, March and December - 60°F, all other months - 90°F. In addition, temperature increases caused by thermal discharge shall not exceed 3°F above ambient during one percent of the hours in a 12 month period.


The State of Illinois has revised the temperature limits for the Lower Des Plaines River, from the I-55 Bridge to the confluence with the Kankakee River. This standard would require that the following temperatures shall not be exceeded by 5°F more than 4% of the time over a 12 month period: January, February - 60°F, March - 70°F, April - 77°F, May - 85°F, June, July, August, September, October - 80°F, November - 76°F, and December - 70°F. We have, however,

7440

expressed our reservations whether such standards would be federally approvable in a letter dated June 15, 1973, to Mr. Samuel Lawton, Acting Chairman of the Illinois Pollution Control Board. In addition, our agency recommended in a letter to Mr. William Blaser, formerly of the Illinois EPA, dated December 14, 1972, a new and more stringent thermal standard for the Illinois River. Copies of both letters and the recommended standards are attached.

We apologize for the errors in our original comments and hope this letter clarifies the situation. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



Sheldon Meyers  
Director  
Office of Federal Activities



