

MAY 05 1978

Docket Nos. 50-237
50-249

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Commonwealth Edison Company
 ATTN: Mr. Cordell Reed
 Assistant Vice President
 Post Office Box 767
 Chicago, Illinois 60690

Gentlemen:

Your letter dated March 20, 1978 requests that a common date be established for implementing the inservice inspection program requirements of 10 CFR 50.55a(g) at Dresden Nuclear Power Station, Units 2 and 3. The provisions of 10 CFR 50.55a(g) "Inservice Inspection Requirements" establish dates for implementing inservice inspection programs that are related to the date that the facility started commercial operation. In the case of Dresden Station Units 2 and 3 the dates for implementing these inservice inspection requirements would be February 9, 1979 and July 18, 1978, respectively.

Because the regulation requires licensees to submit inservice inspection programs which conform to the edition of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code that is in effect 6 months prior to the program's implementation date, Commonwealth Edison has requested a common implementation date for Dresden Units 2 and 3 to avoid the possibility that a different inservice inspection program and implementing procedures could be required on each of these similar units.

We have reviewed your request which proposes November 1, 1978 as the common inservice inspection implementation date. Based upon our review we have concluded that:

1. The inservice inspection programs currently being used for Dresden Units 2 and 3 provide adequate assurance that the primary coolant system structural integrity will be maintained at the level required by the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code;
2. The delay of approximately three months in implementing a revised inservice inspection program for Unit No. 3 does not constitute a significant fraction of the 40 month period during which the program is to be used;

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MAY 05 1978

3. The 3 month delay on Unit 3 will be offset by a similar 3 month acceleration of the implementation of this program for Unit 2;
4. The establishment of a single date for implementing 10 CFR 50.55a(g) for Units 2 and 3 at Dresden Station will assure that both Units will implement an identical inservice inspection program at both facilities. Because these facilities are similar in design and construction a common program is desirable and eliminates multiple reviews by the Regulatory staff;
5. We have determined that the exemption does not involve a change in effluent types or total amounts nor an increase in power level and will not result in any significant environmental impact. Having made this determination, we have further concluded that the exemption involves an action which is insignificant from the standpoint of environmental impact and pursuant to 10 CFR 951.5(d)(4) that an environmental impact statement or negative declaration and environmental impact appraisal need not be prepared in connection with the issuance of the exemption; and
6. We have also concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) because the exemption does not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of accidents previously considered and does not involve a significant decrease in a safety margin, the exemption does not involve a significant hazards consideration, (2) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, and (3) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations and the issuance of this exemption will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

In consideration of the above conclusions we have determined that an exemption permitting a common date of November 1, 1978 for implementing the inservice inspection program requirements of 10 CFR 50.55a(g) is authorized by law, will not endanger life or property or the common defense and security, and is otherwise in the public interest.

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MAY 05 1978

Accordingly, Commonwealth Edison is exempted from the provisions of 10 CFR 50.55a(g) which set forth the manner by which the implementation dates for the Dresden Units 2 and 3 inservice inspection program are to be established. Therefore, you are hereby authorized to begin the next inservice inspection interval on November 1, 1978, for Units 2 and 3. Subsequent inservice inspection intervals shall begin at 40 month intervals calculated using November 1, 1978, as their starting point.

Copies of a notice related to this action is enclosed.

Sincerely,

151

Victor Stello, Jr., Director
Division of Operating Reactors
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
Notice

cc: See next page

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**See previous yellow for concurrences

Handwritten notes: DOR/DIR, 5/14/78, and a signature.

NRR-A/DIR

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	** DLZiemann	**	** BGrimes	DEisenhut	ECase	VStello
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SURNAME →	HSmith:sah	SSheppard	POConnor	RBevan	CYCheng	GLear
DATE →	4/19/78 5/1/78	4/20/78	4/19/78	4/20/78	4/20/78	4/20/78

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MAY 05 1978

3. The 3 month delay on Unit 3 will be offset by a similar 3 month acceleration of the implementation of this program for Unit 2;
4. The establishment of a single date for implementing 10 CFR 50.55a(g) for Units 2 and 3 at Dresden Station will assure that both Units will implement an identical inservice inspection program at both facilities. Because these facilities are similar in design and construction a common program is desirable and eliminates multiple reviews by the Regulatory staff;
5. We have determined that the amendment does not involve a change in effluent types or total amounts nor an increase in power level and will not result in any significant environmental impact. Having made this determination, we have further concluded that the amendment involves an action which is insignificant from the standpoint of environmental impact and pursuant to 10 CFR §51.5(d)(4) that an environmental impact statement or negative declaration and environmental impact appraisal need not be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendment; and
6. We have also concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) because the amendment does not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of accidents previously considered and does not involve a significant decrease in a safety margin, the amendment does not involve a significant hazards consideration, (2) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, and (3) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations and the issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

In consideration of the above conclusions we have determined that an exemption permitting a common date of November 1, 1978 for implementing the inservice inspection program requirements of 10 CFR 50.55a(g) is authorized by law, will not endanger life or property or the common defense and security, and is otherwise in the public interest.

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MAY 05 1978

- 3. The 3 month delay on Unit 3 will be offset by a similar 3 month acceleration of the implementation of this program for Unit 2; and
- 4. The establishment of a single date for implementing 10 CFR 50.55a(g) for Units 2 and 3 at Dresden Station will assure that both Units will implement an identical inservice inspection program at both facilities. Because these facilities are similar in design and construction a common program is desirable and eliminates multiple reviews by the Regulatory staff.

In consideration of the above conclusions we have determined that an exemption permitting a common date of November 1, 1978 for implementing the inservice inspection program requirements of 10 CFR 50.55a(g) is authorized by law, will not endanger life or property or the common defense, and security, and is otherwise in the public interest.

Accordingly, Commonwealth Edison is exempted from the provisions of 10 CFR 50.55a(g) which set forth the manner by which the implementation dates for the Dresden Units 2 and 3 inservice inspection program are to be established. Therefore, you are hereby authorized to begin the next inservice inspection interval on November 1, 1978, for Units 2 and 3. Subsequent inservice inspection intervals shall begin at 40 month intervals calculated using November 1, 1978, as their starting point.

Copies of a notice related to this action is enclosed.

Sincerely,

Victor Stello, Jr., Director
 Division of Operating Reactors
 Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
 Notice

cc: See next page *SB*

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DATE >	4/19/78	4/20/78	4/19/78	4/20/78	4/20/78

May 5, 1978

cc w/enclosures:

Mr. John W. Rowe
Isham, Lincoln & Beale
Counselors at Law
One First National Plaza, 42nd Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60603

Mr. B. B. Stephenson
Plant Superintendent
Dresden Nuclear Power Station
Rural Route #1
Morris, Illinois 60450

Anthony Z. Roisman, Esquire
Sheldon, Harmon & Roisman
1025 15th Street, N. W., 5th Floor
Washington, D. C. 20005

Morris Public Library
604 Liberty Street
Morris, Illinois 60451

Illinois Department of Public Health - w/CECO filing dtd. 3/20/78
ATTN: Chief, Division of Nuclear
Safety
535 West Jefferson
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Mr. William Waters
Chairman, Board of Supervisors
of Grundy County
Grundy County Courthouse
Morris, Illinois 60450

Chief, Energy Systems Analyses
Branch (AW-459)
Office of Radiation Programs
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
Room 645, East Tower
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Washington, D. C. 20460

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
Federal Activities Branch
Region V Office
ATTN: EIS COORDINATOR
230 South Dearborn Street
Chicago, Illinois 60604

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONDOCKET NOS. 50-237 & 50-249COMMONWEALTH EDISON COMPANYNOTICE OF ISSUANCE OF AN EXEMPTION
FROM THE PROVISIONS OF 10 CFR 50.55a(g)
"INSERVICE INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS"

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has issued an exemption to Commonwealth Edison Company (the licensee), for Dresden Station Units 2 and 3 (the facilities) located in Grundy County, Illinois. The exemption is effective as of its date of issuance.

In response to the licensee's request dated March 20, 1978, the Commission has issued an exemption, which exempts the licensee from the provisions of 10 CFR 50.55a(g), "Inservice Inspection Requirements." The purpose of this action is to allow a common date for implementing the inservice inspection programs for Dresden Station Units 2 and 3. Therefore, the exemption authorizes the licensee to implement the inservice inspection programs for Dresden Station Units 2 and 3 on November 1, 1978, rather than February 9, 1979 (Unit 2) and July 18, 1978 (Unit 3).

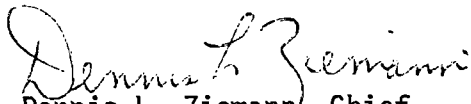
The application for exemption complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations. The Commission has made appropriate findings as required by the Act and the Commission's rules and regulations to 10 CFR Chapter I, which are set forth in the letter authorizing the exemption. Prior public notice of this action was not required since this action does not involve a significant hazards consideration.

The Commission has determined that the issuance of this exemption will not result in any significant environmental impact and that pursuant to 10 CFR §51.5(d)(4) an environmental impact statement or negative declaration and environmental impact appraisal need not be prepared in connection with issuance of the exemption.

For further details with respect to this action, see (1) the licensee's request dated March 20, 1978; and (2) the Commission's letter authorizing the exemption dated May 5, 1978, which contains the related evaluation. All of these items are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. and the Morris Public Library at 604 Liberty Street, Morris, Illinois 60451. A single copy of item (2) may be obtained upon request addressed to the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555, Attention: Director, Division of Operating Reactors.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland this 5th day of May, 1978

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION


Dennis L. Ziemann, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #2
Division of Operating Reactors