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Commonwealth Edison
One First National Plaza, Chicago, Illinois
Address Reply to: Post Office Box 767
Chicago, Illinois 60690

REGULATORY DOCKET FILE COPY

October 6, 1977

Mr. Donald K. Davis, Acting Chief
Operating Reactors - Branch 2
Division of Operating Reactors
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555



Subject: Dresden Station Unit 2
Plan to Investigate the Cause of
Degraded CRD Performance
NRC Docket No. 50-237

Reference (a): D. K. Davis letter to R. L. Bolger,
dated August 23, 1977.

Dear Mr. Davis:

Reference (a) requested Commonwealth Edison to transmit its plans to investigate the cause of degraded Control Rod Drive (CRD) performance at Dresden Station Unit 2.

Dresden Unit 2 has experienced an increasing number of CRD's which failed to fully insert and latch at position "00" following a scram condition. At present, a total of fifty-one (51) CRD's have exhibited this problem and are scheduled to be overhauled during the present 1977 refueling outage. The probable cause of the problem is attributed to severely worn or damaged stop piston seals.

General Electric Company has been contracted to investigate the cause of seal deterioration and to determine an ultimate fix. Based upon this investigation and the results obtained from the CRD disassembly inspection of the CRD's to be overhauled this outage, a plan of action will be developed. A supplemental report will be submitted within 90 days following the startup of Dresden Unit 2 from the current refueling outage.

One (1) signed original and 39 copies of this letter are provided for your use.

Very truly yours,

M. S. Turbak

M. S. Turbak
Nuclear Licensing Administrator
Boiling Water Reactors

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