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June 27, 1991

Dr. Thomas E. Murley, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Attention: Document Control Desk

Subject: Dresden Nuclear Power Station Unit 3
Revised Fuel Loading Plan for
Dresden Unit 3 Cycle 13
NRC Docket No. 50-249

Reference: M. Richter (CECo) letter to T. Murley
(NRC), dated March 6, 1991.

Dr. Murley:

The referenced letter submitted a proposed amendment to the Dresden Unit 3 Technical Specifications to reflect the use of new Advanced Nuclear Fuels (ANF) reload licensing methodologies beginning with Cycle 13 (D3C13). The proposed amendment referenced these NRC-approved methodologies and incorporated the resultant increase in the Minimum Critical Power Ratio (MCPR) Safety Limit from 1.05 to 1.08.

As a result of unexpected outages and outage extensions for both Dresden units (Units 2 and 3), Cycle 12 operation for Unit 3 was extended by approximately five months subsequent to the submittal of the proposed amendment. In order to avoid substantial energy shortfalls during Cycle 13 operation, 52 additional fresh fuel bundles have been incorporated into the D3C13 core design, requiring new reload licensing calculations.

ANF recently finalized the MCPR Safety Limit calculation for the revised Cycle 13 core design which confirmed that the results from the original D3C13 MCPR Safety Limit calculation with the new methodologies were not impacted. Hence, the proposed Technical Specification amendment to increase the MCPR Safety Limit from 1.05 to 1.08, including all conclusions in the Significant Hazards Evaluation, remains valid.

Currently, Dresden Unit 3 Cycle 12 is scheduled to shutdown on September 1, 1991, with Cycle 13 startup scheduled for November 10, 1991. Approval of the proposed Technical Specification amendment is needed to support Cycle 13 startup.

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Dr. Thomas E. Murley

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Please contact this office should further information be required.

Respectfully,

Milton H. Richter

M.H. Richter
Nuclear Licensing Administrator

cc: A.B. Davis - Regional Administrator, Region III
B.L. Siegel - NRR Project Manager
W.G. Rogers - Senior Resident Inspector, Dresden