



Commonwealth Edison
1400 Opus Place
Downers Grove, Illinois 60515

October 3, 1991

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

Attn: Document Control Desk

Subject: Dresden Nuclear Power Station Units 2 and 3
Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station Units 1 and 2
LaSalle County Nuclear Power Station Units 1 and 2
Structural Margin Evaluation for
Reactor Pressure Vessel Head Studs
NRC Docket Nos. 50-237/249, 50-254/265, 50-373/374

- References:
- (a) CECo-NRR Region III Meeting on Reactor Vessel Head Closure Studs on July 30, 1991 (Held at CECo's Downers Grove Office).
 - (b) M. Richter (CECo) letter to T.E. Murley (NRC), dated August 23, 1991.

Dear Dr. Murley:

As discussed with your Staff during the Reference (a) meeting, CECo indicated that an enhanced inspection program for the reactor vessel closure studs at its BWR stations was being pursued. Reference (b) presented a relief request (CR-14) for the Dresden Unit 3 ISI Program to support the Dresden Unit 3 refueling outage stud inspection and removal.

The relief request proposed alternative Section XI sample expansion and examination methodology based on the results of magnetic particle inspections performed on the removed studs. As stated in Reference (b), the alternate sample expansion methodology substitutes bore probe ultrasonic examinations in place of the required Section XI magnetic particle examinations. Detected flaws will be evaluated against a maximum allowable flaw size. The flaw size is currently being determined by a conservative, bounding fracture mechanics analysis which utilizes the results from recent fracture toughness testing on stud material. The fracture mechanics analysis for CECo's BWRs has been completed by General Electric and is attached to this letter for your Staff's review.

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If there are any questions concerning this matter, please contact this office.

Sincerely,


for Milton H. Richter
Nuclear Licensing Administrator

Attachment: Fracture Mechanics Based Structured Margin Evaluation for
Commonwealth Edison BWR Reactor Pressure Vessel Head Studs.

cc: A. Bert Davis, Regional and Administrator - RIII
B. L. Siegel, NRR Project Manager - Dresden/LaSalle
L. Olshan, NRR Project Manager - Quad Cities
W. G. Rogers, Senior Resident Inspector - Dresden
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