UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION III
799 ROOSEVELT ROAD
GLEN ELLYN, ILLINOIS 60137-5927

AUG 1 9 1993

Docket No. 50-249
License No. DPR-25
NOED No. 93-3-003

Commonwealth Edison Company
ATTN: L. O. DelGeorge
Vice President, Nuclear Oversight
and Regulatory Services
Executive Towers West III
1400 Opus Place, Suite 300
Downers Grove, IL 60515

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF ENFORCEMENT DISCRETION FOR COMMONWEALTH EDISON COMPANY REGARDING THE DRESDEN NUCLEAR STATION UNIT 3

Dear Mr. DelGeorge:

By letter dated August 17, 1993, you requested the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to exercise its discretion not to enforce compliance with the required actions in Technical Specification (TS) 3.5.B. Your staff informed the NRC on August 16, 1993, at 1:00 p.m. (CDT) that the Dresden Nuclear Station, Unit 3, would not be in compliance with TS 3.5.B with regard to "operable" containment cooling subsystem loops within the specified allowable outage time. Specifically, your letter stated that at 8:31 a.m. on August 16, 1993, Dresden Unit 3 entered Technical Specification 3.5.B.4 due to the inability of either Containment Cooling (CCSW) subsystem to attain the 7000 gpm design flow (6000 gpm was measured in the A-loop and calculated in the B-loop) required by FSAR Table 6.2.4.1. LCO 3.5.B.4 required the Unit to be placed in a Cold Shutdown condition within 24 hours. The 24 hour time limit would not allow time to procure, install, and test the CCSW flow control valve component causing the degraded flow condition. You provided as justification for continued operation that both Unit 3 CCSW loops were capable of meeting individual CCSW pump TS surveillance requirements of 3500 gpm at a pressure of 180 psig. Further, the measured and calculated flow of 6000 gpm for two CCSW pumps operating in parallel would provide adequate heat removal capability. Your basis for determining adequate heat removal was a December 1992 containment analysis that was reviewed by the NRC in March of 1993. In addition, you identified compensatory measures to include: reading packages for Shift Engineers consisting of the full details of the existing condition; Unit 3 was to minimize unnecessary maneuvers by the Load Dispatcher, the station would not perform unnecessary maintenance work in the plant and the switchyard until both CCSW subsystems are declared operable; and Technical Specification surveillances will only be performed if the critical date is reached prior to declaring CCSW operable.

Based on our review of your justification, including the compensatory measures identified above, the staff has concluded that this course of action involves minimal or no safety impact, and we are clearly satisfied that this exercise of enforcement discretion is warranted from a public health and safety perspective.

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Therefore, this letter documents our verbal granting on August 16, 1993, of our intention to exercise discretion not to enforce compliance with Technical Specification 3.5.B.4 for the period from August 16, 1993, at 8:31 a.m. (CDT) until August 25, 1993, at 4:00 p.m. (CDT). Notwithstanding our granting of enforcement discretion, we will consider enforcement action, as appropriate, for the conditions that led to the need for this exercise of enforcement discretion.

Sincerely,

Edward G. Greenman

Edward G. Greenman, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

cc:
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G. Spedl, Station Manager
J. Shields, Regulatory Assurance Supervisor
D. Farrar, Nuclear Regulatory Services Manager
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