

95-01

April 28, 1995

Mr. T. Joyce, Site Vice President
Dresden Station
Commonwealth Edison Company
6500 North Dresden Road
Morris, IL 60450

Dear Mr. Joyce:

Enclosed for your review is the Systematic Assessment of Licensee Performance (SALP) 13 Report for the Dresden Generating Station, covering the period August 22, 1993, through March 18, 1995. As discussed between Ms. S. Reece-Koenig of your staff and Ms. D. Chyu of this office, a meeting to discuss this report with you and your staff has been scheduled at the Dresden Training Facility, at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, May 12, 1995.

During this meeting you are encouraged to candidly discuss any comments you may have regarding our report. While this meeting is considered a presentation and discussion forum between Commonwealth Edison Company and the NRC, the meeting will be opened to any other interested parties as observers.

During the assessment period, overall performance at Dresden was cyclical. For the first 12 months of the period little improvement was evident, and some areas of performance declined culminating in two significant plant events in the fall of 1994. Specifically, Unit 3 tripped due to operator inattention and the Unit 2 high pressure coolant injection system failed due to poor maintenance. Management moved decisively and shut down both plants to implement significant actions to improve performance. Both units remained shut down while you focused resources to establish new performance standards. Initially, positive results were seen including a reduction in the number of operator work-arounds, the establishment of clear operator expectations, a reduction in plant contaminated areas, and an error free restart of both units. However, the momentum started through these efforts was not sustained, and performance again declined near the end of the assessment period when operator errors were compounded by poor management response. As of this date efforts are underway to reinvigorate the Dresden improvement initiative.

In accordance with NRC policy, I have reviewed the recommendations resulting from the SALP board assessment. It is my view that the overall conduct of nuclear activities in connection with the Dresden facility is adequate, however, significant performance issues remain. The maintenance area was assigned a Category 2 rating; however, the board members were divided on this rating given the weaknesses observed. The functional area of plant support was rated Category 2. The operations and engineering areas were rated Category 3.

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Mr. Joyce

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Early in the period, the self-assessment and problem identification process was poor. Some improvement in problem identification was noted late in the period; however, identification of trends and corrective action implementation remain concerns from the last SALP period.

You are requested to respond in writing within 30 days after the SALP meeting, specifically addressing corrective actions planned to improve your performance in the areas of operations and engineering. You should also be prepared to discuss our assessments and your plans in these areas, as well as your plant performance expectations for 1995 and beyond, during the SALP meeting.

In accordance with Section 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, *Code of Federal Regulations*, a copy of this letter, the SALP report, and your response to this letter will be placed in the NRC's Public Document Room.

Should you have any questions concerning the SALP report, we would be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,

/s/ J. Martin, RA

John B. Martin
Regional Administrator

Docket No. 50-237

Docket No. 50-249

Enclosure: SALP 13
Report Nos. 50-237;249/95001

cc w/enclosure:

M. Wallace, Senior Vice President,
Chief Nuclear Officer

J. C. Brons, Vice President,
Nuclear Support

J. S. Perry, Vice President, BWR Operations

T. Nauman, Station Manager Unit 1

R. Bax, Station Manager Unit 2

M. Heffley, Station Manager Unit 3

P. Holland, Regulatory Assurance
Supervisor

D. Farrar, Nuclear Regulatory
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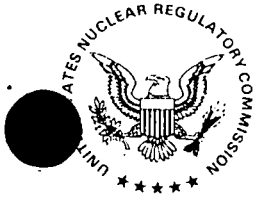
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DATE	4/21/95 via Telecon		4/21/95					

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION III
801 WARRENVILLE ROAD
LISLE, ILLINOIS 60532-4351

April 28, 1995

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Dresden Station
Commonwealth Edison Company
6500 North Dresden Road
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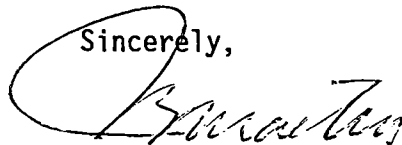
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