

April 4, 1996

JSPLTR-96-0053

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Attn: Document Control Desk

Washington, D.C. 20555

Subject:

Dresden Nuclear Power Station Units 2 and 3

Clarification of Information provided in May 9, 1988

Request for Additional Information Response

NRC Docket Nos. 50-237/249

References:

- (a) I. M. Johnson (ComEd) to T. E. Murley (USNRC) dated May 9, 1988.
- (b) B. Siegel (USNRC) to H. Bliss (ComEd) SER dated November 8, 1988.

The purpose of this letter is to clarify information provided in Reference (a). In Reference (a) ComEd responded to the staff request for information concerning the operation of the Alternate Rod Insertion (ARI) valves installed to comply with 10 CFR 50.62 "The ATWS Rule." Reference (a) provided the staff with the following information:

".... that two manual switches for Dresden Unit 2 are spaced such that only one can be operated at any given time by a single person, this one person would have to operate these manual switches in sequence (i.e., both switches cannot be reached by a single person to operate concurrently..."

This paragraph intended to inform the staff as to how inadvertent initiation of the ARI valves would be prevented. ComEd wishes to clarify that complete ARI initiation can be achieved from depressing both switches in either ARI division (one person can perform this action). Inadvertent initiation is prevented by requiring the ARI push buttons to be armed prior to depression. Arming is achieved by rotating the collars of the ARI pushbuttons 180 degrees prior to depressing the buttons. Arming of the ARI is annunciated in the main control room. This arming feature is the true deterrent to inadvertent operation.

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This clarification was used to established the staff's acceptance and approval of the ARI initiation design in Reference (b). ComEd believes that inadvertent operation of ARI is adequately prevented and this revised information has minimal effect on the evaluation provided by the staff in Reference (b). If you have any questions, please contact Pete Holland, Regulatory Assurance Supervisor (815) 942-2920 extension, 2714

Sincerely,

J. Stephen Perry Vice President BWR Operations

cc: H. J. Miller, Regional Administrator - RIII
J. F. Stang, Project Manager - NRR

C. L. Vanderniet, Senior Resident Inspector - Dresden Office of Nuclear Facility Safety - IDNS