

## UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

May 29, 1996

Mr. D. L. Farrar Manager, Nuclear Regulatory Services Commonwealth Edison Company Executive Towers West III 1400 Opus Place, Suite 500 Downers Grove, IL 60515

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR WITHHOLDING INFORMATION FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

Dear Mr. Farrar:

By letter from Commonwealth Edison Company (ComEd) dated October 2, 1995, and General Electric Company's (GE) affidavit executed by Michael A. Smith dated September 29, 1995, you submitted a proprietary document entitled, "Analysis of the Dresden and Quad Cities Shroud Repair Hardware Seismic Design with Improved Tie Rod and Shroud Weld Crack Equivalent Rotational Stiffness," GE-NE-523-A100-0995, Revision 0, and requested that it be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790.

GE stated that the information should be considered exempt from mandatory public disclosure for the following reasons:

- "(4)a Information that discloses a process, method, or apparatus, including supporting data and analyses, where prevention of its use by General Electric's competitors without license from General Electric constitutes a competitive economic advantage over other companies.
- (4)b Information which, if used by a competitor, would reduce his expenditure of resources or improve his competitive position in the design, manufacture, shipment, installation, assurance of quality, or licensing of a similar product;
- The information identified in paragraph (2), above, [Analysis of the Dresden and Quad Cities Shroud Repair Hardware Seismic Design with Improved Tie Rod and Shroud Weld Crack Equivalent Rotational Stiffness, GE-NE-523-A100-0995, Revision 0] is classified as proprietary because it contains detailed results of analytical models, methods and processes, including computer codes, and it contains the supporting Design Record File (DRF) detailed calculations, results and bases for conclusions. These reports are part of the DRF supporting information to evaluate a hardware design modification (stabilizer for the shroud horizontal welds) intended to be installed in a reactor to resolve the reactor

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pressure vessel core shroud weld cracking concern. This detailed level of information usually resides in GENE files, only for audit by customers and the NRC. This information shows in specific detail the processes, codes and methods employed to perform the evaluations summarized in the above identified document. The development and approval of this design modification utilized systems, components, and models and computer codes that were developed at a significant cost to GE, on the order of several hundred thousand dollars."

We have reviewed your submittal and the material in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 2.790 and, on the basis of GE's statements, have determined that the submitted information sought to be withheld contains trade secrets or proprietary commercial information.

Therefore, we have determined that the documents entitled, "Analysis of the Dresden and Quad Cities Shroud Repair Hardware Seismic Design with Improved Tie Rod and Shroud Weld Crack Equivalent Rotational Stiffness," GE-NE-523-A100-0995, Revision 0, marked as proprietary will be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790(b)(5) and Section 103(b) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

Withholding from public inspection shall not affect the right, if any, of persons properly and directly concerned to inspect the document. If the need arises, we may send copies of this information to our consultants working in this area. We will, of course, insure that the consultants have signed the appropriate agreements for handling proprietary information.

If the basis for withholding this information from public inspection should change in the future such that the information could then be made available for public inspection, you should promptly notify the NRC. You should also understand that the NRC may have cause to review this determination in the future, for example, if the scope of a Freedom of Information Act request includes your information. In all review situations, if the NRC needs additional information from you or makes a determination adverse to the above, you will be notified in advance of any public disclosure.

Sincerely,

/s/

John F. Stang, Project Manager Project Directorate III-2 Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-237, 50-249

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D. L. Farrar Commonwealth Edison Company Dresden Nuclear Power Station Unit Nos. 2 and 3

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