



June 5, 1997

JSPLTR #97-0106

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
ATTN: Document Control Desk  
Washington, D. C. 20555

Subject: Dresden Nuclear Power Station, Unit 3  
Core Spray Flaw Evaluation Report  
NRC Docket No. 50-249

References: a) J. S. Perry (ComEd) letter to USNRC transmitting "Submittal of Core Spray Inspection Plan for Dresden Unit 3," dated October 3, 1996.

b) J. F. Stang (NRC) letter to I. Johnson transmitting "Dresden Nuclear Power Station, Unit 3 - Core Spray Piping Inspection Plan (TAC No. M96943)," dated April 5, 1997

Reference (a) submitted Dresden Station's Core Spray Inspection Plan for Unit 3. Reference (b) approved the inspection plan. The purpose of this letter is to submit the results of the core spray inspection for Dresden Unit 3. During the recent refuel outage for Dresden Unit 3 (D3R14), inspections were performed of the reactor internal core spray system consisting of an ultrasonic examination of the piping welds from the reactor vessel nozzles down to the shroud and visual examinations of the sparger piping inside the shroud. All supports and brackets inside and outside the shroud were visually examined. Indications were observed at five locations on the core spray downcomers in the vessel annulus.

The enclosure provides a summary of the evaluation criteria, design inputs and the results of the evaluations performed to assess the extent, causes and impact of the indications on the safe operation of Dresden Unit 3. The indications are typical of Intergranular Stress Corrosion Cracking in stainless steel.

The combined assessment of the system structural margin as well as core spray system functional capacity confirm the conclusion that sufficient margin exists to operate for two cycles with the identified flaws. Dresden will continue to monitor the condition of the degraded core spray welds during subsequent refueling outages, per the recommendations of the Boiling Water Reactor Vessel and Internals Project (BWRVIP) guidelines "BWR Core Spray Internal Inspection and Flaw Evaluation Guidelines (BWRVIP-18)."

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If there are any question concerning the report please contact Mr. Frank Spangenberg,  
Regulatory Assurance Manager, at (815) 942-2920, extension 3800.

Sincerely,



J. Stephen Perry  
Site Vice President  
Dresden Station

Enclosure - Dresden Unit 3 Core Spray Flaw Evaluation Report, SL-5130, Rev. 2

cc: A. Bill Beach, Regional Administrator, Region III  
W. J. Kropp, Branch Chief, Division of Reactor Projects, Region III  
J. F. Stang, Project Manager, NRR (Unit 2/3)  
Senior Resident Inspector, Dresden  
Office of Nuclear Facility Safety - IDNS  
File: Numerical