



50-237/249

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

September 24, 1997

Ms. Irene Johnson, Acting Manager
Nuclear Regulatory Services
Commonwealth Edison Company
Executive Towers West III
1400 Opus Place, Suite 500
Downers Grove, IL 60515

SUBJECT: VERIFICATION OF ADEQUATE WALL THICKNESS FOR MARK I TORUS SHELLS -
DRESDEN NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNITS 2 AND 3 (TAC NOS. M95296 AND
M97463)

Dear Ms. Johnson:

The NRC staff is interested in obtaining information from several licensees relating to the minimum code wall thickness of the torus structure in containments with the Mark I torus structure. Torus wall thinning may have occurred as a result of corrosion of the steel shell in areas that have defective or missing coatings. Information on the results of inspection of the Mark I torus structure in the vicinity of the torus to ring girder support welds, at the air water interface, and in submerged areas is requested. The wall thickness at those locations may be below the code allowable wall thickness. While UT thickness measurements would usually be made from the outside of the torus, it is important to visually inspect the condition of the coatings on the inside of the torus. The staff is requesting that ComEd verify the torus wall thickness at Dresden, Units 2 and 3, meets the minimum wall thickness requirements. This can be accomplished by review of recent prior inspection results or by inspection of the torus structure.

The staff is requesting a report containing the minimum wall thicknesses in these locations, the method/criteria for these thicknesses, the actual thicknesses in these locations, the condition of the coatings on the inside of the torus, and the date of these measurements/observations. If degradation has been found, the licensee should provide an assessment of the condition and long-term integrity of the torus. The NRC staff requests that any available information be provided within 60 days of the date of receipt of this letter.

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I. Johnson
Commonwealth Edison Company

Dresden Nuclear Power Station
Unit Nos. 2 and 3

cc:

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I. Johnson

- 2 -

If the information is not available and an inspection is required, the staff expects the data would be taken at the next outage of sufficient duration and followed up with a report within 60 days. If there are any questions, please call me at (301) 415-1345.

Sincerely,

;S;

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

Docket Nos. 50-237, 50-249

cc: see next page

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