



UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

September 30, 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: RESOLUTION OF INCONSISTENCY IN DESIGN BASIS DOCUMENTATION CONCERNING THE FRACTURE TOUGHNESS OF THE LOW PRESSURE COOLANT INJECTION AND CORE SPRAY PUMP CASINGS DRESDEN UNITS 2 AND 3 (TAC NOS. M98187 AND M98188)

Dear Ms. Johnson:

By letter dated February 18, 1997, Commonwealth Edison Company (ComEd, the licensee) submitted a letter describing an inconsistency discovered concerning the fracture toughness associated with the low pressure coolant injection (LPCI) and core spray pump casings for Dresden, Units 2 and 3. The licensee discovered that the documentation and associated safety evaluations accepting the fracture toughness of the LPCI and core spray pump casings were based on a minimum system water temperature of 60 degrees Fahrenheit. The value of 60 degrees Fahrenheit was submitted to the NRC in a letter dated January 6, 1989. The minimum design temperature listed for the LPCI and core spray systems in the Updated Final Safety Analysis Report is 40 degrees Fahrenheit. To resolve the issue, the licensee obtained the original plant design specification from General Electric (GE). The documentation indicated that the minimum design temperature for the LPCI and core spray systems was 40 degrees Fahrenheit.

The licensee's February 18, 1997, letter provided justification for the fracture toughness of the LPCI and core spray pump casings with the minimum system water temperature of 40 degrees Fahrenheit. The staff evaluated the licensee's justification. Enclosed is the staff's Safety Evaluation (SE). Based of the staff's SE, it was determined that the ferritic materials in the LPCI and core spray pump casings need not be fracture toughness tested to later editions of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (Code).

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I. Johnson

In addition, the staff determined that with the LPCI and core spray system minimum system temperature of 40 degrees Fahrenheit, the LPCI and core spray pump casings have adequate fracture toughness.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

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

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Docket Nos. 50-237, 50-249

Enclosure: SE

cc w/encl: see next page

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DOCUMENT NAME: DRESDEN DR98187. SE

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

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Docket Nos. 50-237, 50-249

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I. Johnson Commonwealth Edison Company

cc:

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