

Docket No. 50-237

DEC 22 1971

State of Illinois
Pollution Control Board
ATTN: Mr. Jacob D. Dumelle,
Member
189 West Madison Street Suite 900
Chicago, Illinois 60602

Dear Mr. Dumelle:

I am pleased to respond to your December 6 letter to Chairman Schlesinger concerning the availability of the high pressure coolant injection system (HPCI) during an incident that occurred on June 5, 1970, at the Dresden Nuclear Power Station Unit 2. The emergency core cooling systems of which, HPCI is one, are designed to achieve a high degree of reliability and availability in performing their standby function. AEC General Design Criterion No. 35 (Title 10, Code of Federal Regulation, Part 50, Appendix A) calls for suitable redundancy in design of emergency core cooling systems so that the system safety function can be accomplished, even assuming a single failure. The Dresden 2 emergency core cooling system conforms to this criterion; the automatic pressure relief subsystem in combination with the low pressure core cooling subsystem (i. e. the core spray and low pressure coolant injection subsystem) is redundant to the HPCI in performing the emergency core cooling function.

During operation of the facility, the Technical Specifications which form a part of the operating license, control the limiting conditions for operation for the facility, including the emergency core cooling systems which must be operable to continue operation. I am enclosing a copy of the last complete revision of the Dresden 2 Technical Specifications for your information; Section 3.5/4.5 C which deals with the HPCI has not changed since the issuance of the operating license on December 22, 1969. The Technical Specifications do permit facility operation with a system out of operation for a limited period; with increased surveillance testing of the redundant system. The Dresden 2 Technical Specifications (p. 77) would permit the HPCI to be inoperable for a period of up to seven days provided that the core spray and low pressure coolant injection systems are tested to assure operability when the HPCI is discovered to be inoperable. The automatic pressure relief subsystem, and isolation condenser are also tested then and daily thereafter until the HPCI is restored to service. This assures that the emergency core cooling function will be performed even during the short periods when the HPCI is out of service.

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I hope this explanation will be of assistance to you. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Peter A. Morris, Director
Division of Reactor Licensing

Enclosure:
Dresden 2 Technical Specifications

cc. Commonwealth Edison Company
ATTN: Mr. Byron Lee, Jr.
Assistant to the President
P. O. Box 767
Chicago, Illinois 60690

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December 21, 1971

1. Mr. Hoffmann
A-241

May we have your advice on filing the attached letter in the Public Document Room?

Ref: Ltr, Jacob D. Dumelle to Schlesinger,
12/6/71
Docket No. 50-237



Jeanne Cook
Office of the Director
of Regulation

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2. Jeanne Cook
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 Document not to be filed in the PDR.

