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December 6, 1971

Dr. James Schlesinger
Chairman
Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D.C.

Dear Dr. Schlesinger:

Recently I had occasion to read Commonwealth Edison Company's account titled "Special Report of Incident of June 5, 1970" at Dresden Nuclear Power Station Unit No. 2. This report was sent to the AEC on July 6, 1970.

I would like to particularly call your attention to a statement in this report. The reports deals with the sequence of events following a spurious signal being generated by a defective potentiometer which caused a turbine trip. Among other happenings in this incident was the emergency core cooling systems activation. The high pressure coolant injection (HPCI) system's turbine went onto turning gear and the four low pressure coolant injection (LPCI) started up.

The incident report (p. III-10, No. 28) states "...the (HPCI) system did not operate and inject water because it had been valved out of service for repairs from earlier problems". On page VIII-7 the incident report states that the reason the HPCI was out of service had been given in a letter to Dr. P.A. Morris from Harlan K. Hoyt dated June 2, 1970.

I would like to know if the AEC safety regulations permitted Dresden 2 to operate then with an ECCS system not capable of being operated.

DR-3985

REC'D IN. DIV. OF REG.
Date 12/9/71
Time 4:30

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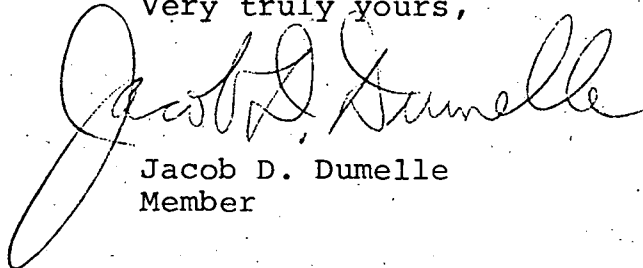
Dr. James Schlesinger

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Dresden 2 was operating at the time of this incident at 75% power or 623 MWe. Since ECCS systems are "emergency" systems it would seem to me that they ought to be capable of operation at any time the reactor is operating. I would appreciate it if you would send me the exact text of the applicable AEC safety regulations that cover ECCS operability requirements both in June 1970 and today, if they have been changed.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jacob D. Dumelle". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Jacob D. Dumelle
Member

JDD:rj

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