



May 16, 1998

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

Subject: Information Concerning NRC Bulletin 96-03,
"Potential Plugging of Emergency Core Cooling Suction
Strainers by Debris in Boiling Water Reactors"
Dresden Nuclear Power Station
NRC Docket Nos. 50-237 and 50-249
Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-19 and DPR-20
Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station
NRC Docket Nos. 50-254 and 50-265
Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-29 and DPR-30
LaSalle County Station
NRC Docket Nos. 50-373 and 50-374
Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-11 and NPF-18

References: 1. J. Hosmer letter to NRC dated October 31, 1996
2. W.T. Subalusky letter to NRC dated November 1, 1996
3. J. Hosmer letter to NRC dated February 26, 1997

The purpose of this letter is to revise ComEd's commitments for Dresden and Quad Cities Stations, and to reiterate LaSalle County Station's current commitment regarding compliance with NRC Bulletin 96-03.

On May 6, 1996 the NRC issued Bulletin 96-03 requesting all Boiling Water Reactor (BWR) licensees take the following actions;

1. Implement appropriate procedural measures and plant modifications to minimize the potential for clogging of the Emergency Core Cooling System (ECCS) Suppression Pool Suction Strainers by debris that may be generated during a Loss of Coolant Accident (LOCA) by the end of the first refueling outage starting after January 1, 1997.
2. Provide a report within 180 days of the date of the Bulletin describing the actions to be taken, the mitigative strategies to be used and a schedule for implementation.

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3. Within 30 days of completion of all requested actions, provide a report confirming completion and summarizing any actions taken.

ComEd's required 180-day response to Bulletin 96-03 for Dresden Station Units 2 and 3 and Quad Cities Station Units 1 and 2 was provided in Reference No.1. ComEd's required 180-day response to Bulletin 96-03 for LaSalle County Station Units 1 and 2 was provided in Reference No.2. Both responses stated that ComEd has evaluated its options and has elected to install large capacity passive strainers (NRC Bulletin 96-03, Option 1) as the optimum method to resolve the ECCS suction strainer plugging issue.

ComEd has completed installation of larger capacity passive strainers on four units and is currently on schedule to complete installation on the two remaining units. The status of these installations is outlined below.

Station and Unit	Scheduled Installation Date
Dresden Unit 2	Completed
Dresden Unit 3	Completed
Quad Cities Unit 1	Fall '98 Refueling Outage
Quad Cities Unit 2	Completed
LaSalle Unit 1	Completed
LaSalle Unit 2	Summer/Fall '98 Refueling Outage

Reference No.2 described LaSalle County Station's current commitment to the NRC regarding compliance with Bulletin 96-03. It stated that:

- Within sixty (60) days of the issuance of the NRC's SER on the URG document, LaSalle County Station will submit a follow-up letter to address and/or reconcile any plant specific technical issues created during the URG review process.
- Within thirty (30) days of completion of all requested actions, a report confirming completion and summarizing all actions taken will be submitted to the Staff.

Reference No.3 described Dresden Station's Unit 3 and Quad Cities Station's Unit 2 current commitment to the NRC regarding compliance with Bulletin 96-03. It stated that:

- ComEd requests deferral for compliance with Bulletin 96-03 for Dresden Unit 3 and Quad Cities Unit 2 until December 31, 1998.

Dresden Station's Unit 2 and Quad Cities Station's Unit 1 current commitments are by the end of their next refueling outages as originally outlined in Bulletin 96-03 (Reference No.1). Dresden Station Unit 2 recently completed its refueling outage on April 16, 1998 and completed the installation. Quad Cities Station Unit 1 is projected for December 18, 1998.

The BWR Owner's Group (BWROG) has developed suction strainer sizing guidance that is contained in "Utility Resolution Guidance for Resolution of ECCS Suction Strainer Blockage" (URG). ComEd used the URG to determine the suction strainer sizes necessary to accommodate all debris expected to result from the worst case LOCA. After the NRC has concluded its review of the URG, it intends to publish its final Safety Evaluation Report (SER).

ComEd has acted prudently and in good faith by installing larger capacity passive strainers and reducing potential sources of fibrous debris without a finalized methodology. The plants are now more robust than they were prior to these efforts. However, ComEd is not in a position to consider that there is final technical closure on Bulletin 96-03 until these remaining issues are clearly defined, and understood and their impact on design margin has been determined.

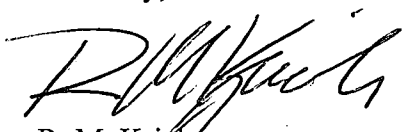
ComEd has no plan to propose changes to the Technical Specifications incorporating any surveillance requirement for the strainers. Periodic strainer inspections are being included in each station's procedures.

ComEd therefore proposes the following actions regarding implementation of NRC Bulletin 96-03 actions;

1. ComEd will submit correspondence to the NRC addressing and/or outlining a plan to reconcile each plant's specific technical issues (actions) created during the URG review process within sixty (60) days of the issuance of the NRC's SER on the URG document.
2. ComEd will submit a report to the NRC confirming completion and summarizing all actions taken within thirty (30) days of completion of all required actions.

This letter reiterates LaSalle Station's current commitment and modifies both Dresden Station's and Quad Cities Station's current commitments.

Sincerely,



R. M. Krich
Vice President Regulatory Services

cc: A. Beach, Regional Administrator – RIII
Senior Resident Inspector – Dresden Station
Senior Resident Inspector – Quad Cities Station
Senior Resident Inspector – LaSalle County Station
Office of Nuclear Facility Safety – IDNS