

June 16, 1998

Mr. Oliver D. Kingsley
President, Nuclear Generation Group
Commonwealth Edison Company
ATTN: Regulatory Services
Executive Towers West III
Downers Grove, IL 60515

SUBJECT: DRESDEN INSPECTION REPORT 50-237/98017(DRP); 50-249/98017(DRP)

Dear Mr. Kingsley:

On May 18 through 20, 1998, the NRC completed a special inspection at your Dresden Nuclear Power Station. The enclosed report presents the results of this inspection.

On May 16, 1998, Dresden Unit 3 control room operators inserted a manual reactor scram due to increasing condenser pressure (or decreasing vacuum). Dresden's Event Review Team concluded that the single most likely cause was excessive leakage past cross around relief valve 3. The inspectors concluded the root cause effort was thorough and agreed with the conclusions.

Two examples were identified where, preceding the manual reactor scram, the interface between operations and engineering personnel was poor. First, the Dresden Event Review Team noted that engineering and operations personnel did not fully evaluate the potential impact from the leaking cross around relief valve 3. Second, the inspectors determined that a significant distraction to control room operators existed during the reactor startup because engineering and operations personnel were not fully communicating the cause of steam jet air ejector flow oscillations and frequent steam jet air ejector drain level annunciators.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and the enclosure will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Geoffrey E. Grant, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos.: 50-237; 50-249
License Nos.: DPR-19; DPR-25

Enclosure: Inspection Report 50-237/98017(DRP);
50-249/98017(DRP)

See Attached Distribution:

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