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March 10, 1999

JMHLTR: #99-0031

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dresden Nuclear Power Station, Unit 3
Facility Operating License No. DPR-25
NRC Docket No. 50-249

Subject: Revised Dresden Unit-3 Cycle 16 Core Operating Limit Report-
And Reload Transient Analysis Results, February 1999

- Reference:
- 1) Letter from B. Siegel (USNRC) to T. Kovach (ComEd) dated February 8, 1990 Approving the Technical Specification Amendment and Core Operating Limits Report per Generic Letter 88-16.
 - 2) Letter from L.W. Rossbach (USNRC) to O.D. Kingsley (ComEd) dated February 16, 1999 Approving the Technical Specification Amendment to use Siemens Power Corporation additive fuel constant methodology for current and future reload cycles.

Dresden Unit 3, has completed its fifteenth cycle of operation and has recently begun Cycle 16. The purpose of this letter is to advise you of ComEd's review and approval of the Cycle 16 reload under the provisions of 10CFR50.59 and to transmit the Core Operating Limits Report (COLR) for the current cycle consistent with Generic Letter 88-16. The Technical Specification amendment to incorporate the COLR for Dresden was approved in Reference 1.

The Dresden Unit 3 Cycle 16 core which consists of NRC-approved fuel designs developed by Siemens Power Corporation (SPC), was designed to operate within approved fuel design criteria, Technical Specifications and related bases, such that the core operating characteristics will be equivalent to or less limiting than those performed to demonstrate that the limiting postulated UFSAR events which could potentially be affected by the reload are within allowable limits.

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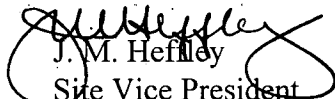
The reload licensing analyses performed for Cycle 16 utilized NRC-approved methodologies. The cycle-specific thermal limits for Cycle 16 are presented in the attached Core Operating Limits Report (COLR).

ComEd has performed a detailed review of the relevant reload licensing documents and the associated bases and references. Based on that review, a safety evaluation was prepared, as required by 10CFR50.59, which concludes that the reload presents no unreviewed safety questions. The attached COLR reflects the Technical Specifications that were recently approved by Reference 2.

Based on the previous discussion, ComEd concluded that NRC review and approval of the Dresden Unit 3 reload analyses are not required for operation of the Cycle 16 core.

Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Frank Spangenberg, Regulatory Assurance Manager, at (815) 942-2920, extension 3800.

Respectfully,


J. M. Heffley
Site Vice President
Dresden Nuclear Power Station

Attachment: Core Operating Limits Report and Reload and Transient Analysis Results, Dresden Station, Unit 3 Cycle 16.

cc: Regional Administrator, Region III (w/attachment)
NRC Senior Resident Inspector (w/attachment)