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October 2, 1980

Mr. James G. Keppler, Director
Directorate of Inspection and
Enforcement - Region III
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
799 Roosevelt Road
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Subject: Dresden Station Units 2 and 3
Revised Response to IE Bulletin
80-17, Supplement 3
"Failure of Control Rods to
Insert During a Scram at a BWR"
NRC Docket Nos. 50-237/249

References (a): T. J. Rausch letter to J. G. Keppler
dated September 2, 1980.

(b): J. G. Keppler letter to C. Reed
dated August 22, 1980.

Dear Mr. Keppler:

Reference (a) provided the Commonwealth Edison Company response for Dresden Station Units 2 and 3 and Quad Cities Station Units 1 and 2 to the Reference (b) transmittal of IE Bulletin 80-17, Supplement 3. That supplement described NRC concerns about a postulated loss of air pressure in the control rod drive control air system. The response for Dresden Units 2 and 3 specified that the appropriate procedure (DOA 902(3)-5, A1) had been revised to require a manual scram of the reactor whenever it was verified that the scram air pressure had reached 60 psig. However, after discussions with the Dresden resident NRC inspectors, we have further revised procedure DOA 902(3)-5, A1 to specify that the control room operator should manually scram the reactor immediately upon annunciation of the low scram air header pressure alarm in the control room.

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The alarm setpoint for that annunciator has now been set at 50 psig. This setpoint is consistent with the 10 psi margin above the opening pressure of the scram outlet valves, as specified in Bulletin 80-17, Supplement 3, and reflects the test data provided to us by General Electric for the air pressure at which the Hammel-Dahl scram outlet valves at Dresden begin to open.

Please address any questions you may have in this regard to this office.

Very truly yours,

Thomas J. Rausch
Thomas J. Rausch
Nuclear Licensing Administrator
Special Projects

cc: Director Division of Reactor Operations Inspection
NRC Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Washington, DC 20555
RIII Inspector - Dresden

SUBSCRIBED and SWORN to
before me this 2ND day
of October, 1980

[Signature]

Notary Public