

Regulatory

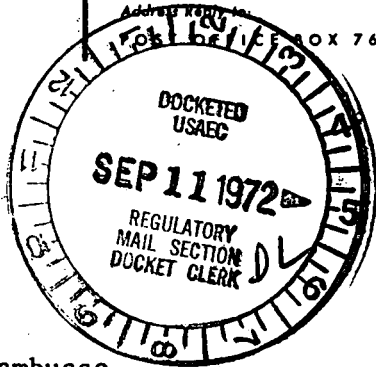
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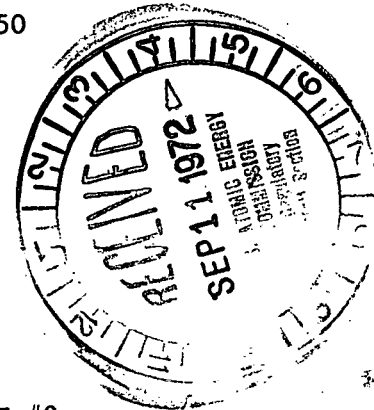
Commonwealth Edison Company

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Dresden Nuclear Power Station
R. R. #1
Morris, Illinois 60450
September 7, 1972



Mr. A. Giambusso
Deputy Director for Reactor Projects
Directorate of Licensing
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D. C. 20545

SUBJECT: LICENSE DPR-19, DRESDEN NUCLEAR POWER STATION - UNIT #2

Dear Mr. Giambusso:

This is to inform you of an event that occurred on Dresden Unit #2 on August 29, 1972.

During a routine control panel inspection, it was noted that "B" steam line had a 20% lower flow than the other three steam lines. Investigation indicated that the flow readings were accurately reflecting a lower flow as evidenced by a calibration check of the instruments and the increase in flow in the other three steam lines. A check of all recording instruments revealed a slight increase in reactor pressure (6 psig) over a period of approximately thirty minutes giving further evidence of a slight flow blockage.

Upstream and downstream pressure readings on all four steam line flow restrictors indicated that the restriction was downstream of the flow restrictor pressure tap in the "B" steam line.

All Main Steam Line Isolation Valves (MSIV) were exercised individually and all operated satisfactorily. Steam flow in the "B" line decreased to zero when each valve in that line was closed.

On August 31, data was taken to indicate steam flow versus MSIV position on the "A" and "B" steam lines. The data indicated that the closure of the MSIV's had a similar effect on steam flow in each of the lines.

On September 2, special test piping was installed. This installation allowed pressure measurements to be taken between the inboard and outboard MSIV's and downstream of the outboard MSIV's on the "A" and "B" steam lines. The pressure readings indicated that the restriction was between the venturi of the flow restrictor and the outboard MSIV. The lack of pressure recovery in the

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"B" steam line, as indicated by the measurements, leads to the possibility that the downstream cone of the flow restrictor is damaged or that the inboard MSIV is partially closed, even though control room valve position indication and testing results to date indicate that the valve is fully open.

One final possibility is a "foreign object" lodged in the steam line. It is unlikely, however, that an object large enough to cause the observed flow reduction could pass through the steam line flow restrictor without damaging the flow measuring device; the measured steam flow on the "B" steam line appears to accurately reflect the flow condition in the line. Measurements of moisture carryover from the reactor show no change from conditions observed before the blockage appeared.

General Electric has analyzed the possible loss of the downstream cone of the restrictor and concluded that the restrictor will still function as described in Section 6.4 of the Dresden Safety Analysis Report. It should be noted that this type of flow restrictor is unique to Dresden Unit 2. We have further demonstrated that the MSIV's operate properly and shutoff flow in the steam line. In addition, we see no change in carry-over measurements that would indicate a disturbance in the reactor dryer assembly.

We have closed both MSIV on the "B" steam line shutting off flow and are currently scheduling a Unit 2 shutdown to externally inspect the inboard MSIV and to radiograph portions of the "B" main steam line. Our future plans will be dictated by the results of this inspection; and we will keep the Region III office informed of our progress.

Sincerely,

W. P. Worden

W. P. Worden
Superintendent
Dresden Nuclear Power Station

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