

CONFIRMATORY ACTION LETTER

Attachment 1

AUG 11 1987

Docket No. 50-249

CAL-RIII-87--014

Commonwealth Edison Company
ATTN: Mr. Cordell Reed
Senior Vice President
Post Office Box 767
Chicago, IL 60690

Gentlemen:

This letter confirms the telephone conversation between William L. Forney of this office and M. Turbak and N. Kalivianakis of your staff on August 10, 1987, related to the feedwater system problems leading to the manual scram which occurred on August 7, 1987, at Dresden Unit 3. At that time, operators were reducing power due to a unrelated Technical Specification required shut-down. At around 30% power, operators noticed oscillations in the feedwater system and evidence of possible leaks, and initiated a manual scram. Two leaks were identified; one where a feedwater flow transmitter root valve had sheared off and another where a drain line on the reactor water cleanup system return line had sheared off. The leaks were believed to be the result of feedwater system oscillations. Similar oscillations also occurred on July 11, 1987, when Unit 3 scrambled from approximately 25% power when the turbine tripped on high reactor water level. With regard to this event and to our Augmented Investigation Team (AIT) which is being implemented to evaluate the root cause and significance of the event, we understand that you will:

1. Determine the cause of the pipe breaks which occurred, or plan and submit a course of action to determine the cause through monitoring of systems during return to power operations.
2. Determine and implement corrective actions to repair the damage from these breaks.
3. Conduct a thorough review and analysis of the recurring feedwater system abnormalities.
4. Based on the results of this review, implement corrective actions to avoid future feedwater system transients similar to those which led to the events on July 11 and August 7, 1987.

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We also understand that startup of Unit 3 will not occur without concurrence of the Regional Administrator or his designee.

Please let us know immediately if your understanding differs from that set out above.

Sincerely,

Original signed by
A. Bert Davis

A. Bert Davis
Regional Administrator

cc: D. Butterfield, Nuclear
Licensing Manager
J. Eenigenburg, Plant Manager
DCS/RSB (RIDS)
Licensing Fee Management Branch
Resident Inspector, RIII
Richard Hubbard
J. W. McCaffrey, Chief, Public
Utilities Division
E. L. Jordan, Director, Office
for Analysis and Evaluation of
Operational Data
D. M. Crutchfield, Director,
Division of Reactor Projects
III/IV/V, NRR
J. Lieberman, Director, Office
of Enforcement

YES
RIII
YVB
for Ring/jp
8/11/97

YES
RIII
WJ
Forney
8/11

YES
RIII
Noble
8/11/97

YES
RIII
Miller
8/11/97

YES
RIII
Grobe
8/11/97

RIII RIII
Benson
8/11/97

RIII
Davis
8/11