



Commonwealth Edison
1400 Opus Place
Downers Grove, Illinois 60515

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August 27, 1990

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Mr. A. Bert Davis
Regional Administrator
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region III
799 Roosevelt Road
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

**Subject: Dresden Station Units 2 and 3
Status of Radwaste Room Cleanup Efforts
NRC Docket Nos. 50-237 and 50-249**

- References:
- (a) NRC/CECo Management Meeting at NRC Region III office (Glen Ellyn, Illinois) on September 20, 1989 (Meeting Report 50-237/89020 and 50-249/89019).
 - (b) J. Silady letter to A. B. Davis, dated October 6, 1990, concerning Radwaste Tank Rooms.
 - (c) CECo (J. Silady/R. Stobert) conference calls with the NRC on June 21, 1990 (M. Schumacher) and June 25, 1990 (L. Greger).
 - (d) NRC/CECo Management Meeting at NRC Region III office (Glen Ellyn, Illinois) on May 30, 1990.

Mr. Davis:

During a meeting with your staff on September 20, 1989 (Reference (a)), Commonwealth Edison Company (CECo) discussed the conditions of the Spent Resin Tank Room and Sludge Tank Room in the Dresden Station Unit 2/3 Radwaste Building. Reference (b) provided an expected completion date of June 30, 1990, for the cleanup of those rooms. CECo notified your staff on the status of the cleanup effort when it was determined that the initial completion date could not be achieved (Reference (c)). This letter provides an update on the cleanup effort, and a revised schedule for completion.

CECo's approach to the tank room cleanup effort has been to utilize equipment and techniques which minimize personnel exposure during the process. A robot has been utilized to assist with the cleanup of the Spent Resin Tank Room; however, repeated operational difficulties with the robot have been encountered which has hindered the progress of this effort. For the Sludge Tank Room, a sparging technique has been attempted; however, this technique was not as effective as expected in removing the sludge from the floor.

CECo is currently obtaining additional assistance from companies with expertise in similar cleanup efforts. Several new options/techniques are being considered. At this time, it is expected that robotics will continue to be utilized for the cleanup effort.

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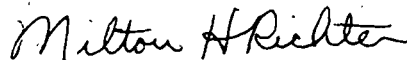
Contingent upon the success of the new techniques, it is expected that the cleanup efforts for the Spent Resin Tank Room and Sludge Tank Room will be completed by September 30, 1990, and December 31, 1990, respectively.

Additionally, as indicated in a meeting with your staff on May 30, 1990 (Reference (d)), a further review of limited access areas in the Radwaste Building identified two (2) new locations (Waste Concentrator Vaults and Main Concentrated Waste Tank Vault) which will be evaluated for potential cleanup efforts. It is expected that this evaluation will be completed by December 31, 1990. At that time, CECo will notify you of the plans for those vaults.

Although the tank room cleanup effort is taking longer than originally expected, the limited material quantities as well as the facility design provides assurance that there is no adverse impact on safe plant operation or the environs. Additionally, access to these rooms (and vaults) is restricted to prevent inadvertent entry. CECo believes that careful planning and execution of the new options/techniques will result in completion of the tank room cleanup effort while minimizing personnel exposure during the process.

Please contact this office should further information be required.

Respectfully,



M.H. Richter
Nuclear Licensing Administrator

cc: B. Siegel - Project Manager, NRR
S. DuPont - Senior Resident Inspector, Dresden
L. Greger - EPRP Branch Chief, Region III
NRR Document Control Desk

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