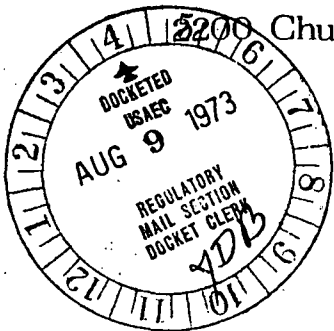


ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY



2200 Churchill Road

62706



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Jack M. Marco, Acting Director

Regulatory

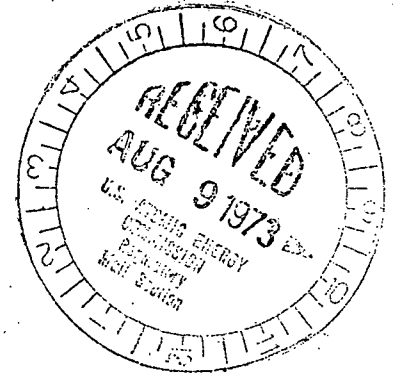
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August 3, 1973

Re: Dresden Nuclear Power Station Units 2 and 3
Draft Environmental Impact Statement Comments

J. F. O'Leary, Director
Directorate of Licensing
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D. C. 20545

50-237
50-249



Dear Mr. O'Leary:

The Environmental Protection Agency of the State of Illinois is pleased to have had the opportunity to review the Draft Environmental Statement relating to Dresden Nuclear Power Station Units 2 and 3 issued June, 1973.

The Permit Section of the Division of Water Pollution Control has reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement prepared pursuant to the issuance of full term operating license to Commonwealth Edison Company for the Dresden Nuclear Power Station Unit 2 and the continuation of the operating license for Unit 3. Based on our review of the information submitted, this Section believes the operation of Units 2 and 3 may be carried out in such a manner as to not cause a violation of the applicable water pollution regulations once the cooling system alterations are complete and closed cycle mode of operation may be implemented. The following comments are offered:

Figure 3.13, entitled, "Winter Isotherms from Dresden Station during Low-River-Flow Conditions" indicates that the 5 degree isotherm in the discharge plume reaches from one shore of the Illinois River almost to the other shore. There may be some question concerning whether a discharge plume of this extent will allow a sufficient zone of free passage for aquatic life. Under most circumstances, this discharge plume will float on the surface and expand into the upper layers of the river only for the 5 degree isotherm range, thus allowing a sufficient zone of free passage for aquatic life underneath this plume.

The Permit Section, Division of Water Pollution Control, issued the operating Permit #1973-EB-664-OP, dated April 12, 1972 to Commonwealth Edison Company for the two discharges from the Dresden generating station. Discharge 1 contains condenser cooling water and process streams from Unit 1, and discharge 2 is the overflow from the cooling lake, which contains condenser cooling water and process streams from Units 2 and 3. This permit was issued for the period of one year.

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Re: Dresden Nuclear Power Station Units 2 and 3

Page Two

Condenser cleaning is accomplished by the injection of a hypochlorite solution into the intake cooling water several times a day. This solution then passes through the condenser, the spray canal and the cooling lake before being discharged to the Illinois River. At the time of discharge to the Illinois River, only a trace of the chlorine is detectable. This trace amount of chlorine should not cause any undesirable effects on the aquatic organisms.

These comments appear to be the only ones that this Agency presently has responsibility for or concern.

Very truly yours,


Richard S. Nelle, P.E.
Chief Engineer

RSN/gr