



## DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20410

Regulatory

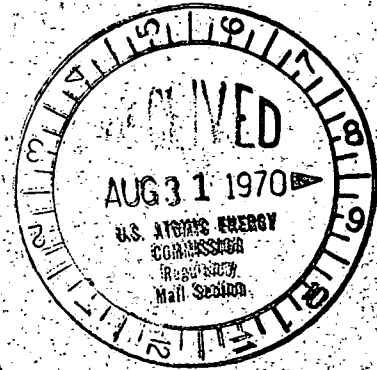
File Cy.

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY

AUG 27 1970

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Mr. Harold L. Price  
 Director of Regulations  
 U. S. Atomic Energy Commission  
 Washington, D. C. 20545



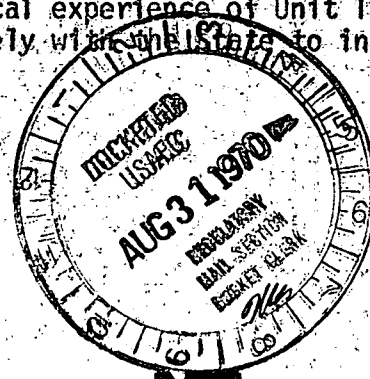
Dear Mr. Price:

This is in reply to your letter of August 6, 1970, requesting HUD comments on the preliminary environmental statement prepared by Commonwealth Edison Co. for its proposed Dresden Nuclear Power Station Unit 3. (Docket No. 50-249)

Dresden Unit 3 is currently being constructed on the same site with Units 1 and 2 and is expected to be operational in the Spring of 1971. The site was approved in 1956 by the AEC for the construction of Unit 1 and has been re-evaluated as the most suitable for Unit 3. Since 1960 when Unit 1 became operational, the Dresden Station has been the site for much of the study that has been conducted concerning the effects of a nuclear generating plant on its surroundings. It has also been used as a Training Center. The 953-acre site is located in Grundy Co., Illinois and is owned by Commonwealth Edison. Its northern boundary is the Illinois River and its eastern boundary is along the Kankakee River. In addition, the company leases approximately 17 acres in two narrow strips of river frontage located near the northeast corner of the site from the State of Illinois. The terms of the lease provide that these "buffer" strips shall remain idle. A 1275 acre cooling lake is being constructed on the site to serve Unit 3.

HUD Comment

Except as noted below, the environmental statement of the Commonwealth Edison appears responsive to the Interim Guidelines set forth by the Council on Environmental Quality. The projections made for the environmental impact of Unit 3 are clear and based on the empirical experience of Unit 1. The Company has demonstrated that it has worked closely with the State to insure minimal harm to the surrounding environment.



27259

We defer to other agencies for radiation and thermal pollution standards, safety, and water quality.

#### HUD Reservation

The preliminary statement is a commendable one. It deals with future growth trends in the area, and due to past experience, land use controls are established. The change from cooling towers which produce extensive fogging to a cooling lake shows flexibility and responsiveness to environmental problems. However, there is no indication that any local or regional planning agency has been consulted in the design of Unit 3. In general, we believe that consultation with local planning agencies should be initiated before the circulation of environmental statements to Federal agencies. In any event, we suggest that even though the construction is almost complete, the final statement should include comments from a planning agency such as that designated by the Bureau of the Budget Circular A-95. The preliminary statement should be submitted to:

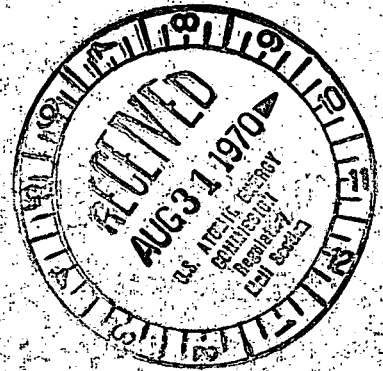
State Clearing House  
Office of the Governor  
205 State House  
Springfield, Illinois 62706

\* \* \* \* \*

When the final statement is distributed we request that a copy be sent to our Regional Administrator, Mr. Francis D. Fisher, 360 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60601.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Charles J. Orlebeke  
Charles J. Orlebeke  
Deputy Under Secretary



At Charles L. Orlebeke



DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20410

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY

AUG 27 1970

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Mr. Harold L. Price  
Director of Regulations  
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20545

Dear Mr. Price:

This is in reply to your letter of August 6, 1970, requesting HUD comments on the preliminary environmental statement prepared by Commonwealth Edison Co. for its proposed Dresden Nuclear Power Station Unit 3. (Docket No. 50-249)

Dresden Unit 3 is currently being constructed on the same site with Units 1 and 2 and is expected to be operational in the Spring of 1971. The site was approved in 1956 by the AEC for the construction of Unit 1 and has been re-evaluated as the most suitable for Unit 3. Since 1960 when Unit 1 became operational, the Dresden Station has been the site for much of the study that has been conducted concerning the effects of a nuclear generating plant on its surroundings. It has also been used as a Training Center. The 953-acre site is located in Grundy Co., Illinois and is owned by Commonwealth Edison. Its northern boundary is the Illinois River and its eastern boundary is along the Kankakee River. In addition, the company leases approximately 17 acres in two narrow strips of river frontage located near the northeast corner of the site from the State of Illinois. The terms of the lease provide that these "buffer" strips shall remain idle. A 1275 acre cooling lake is being constructed on the site to serve Unit 3.

HUD Comment

Except as noted below, the environmental statement of the Commonwealth Edison appears responsive to the Interim Guidelines set forth by the Council on Environmental Quality. The projections made for the environmental impact of Unit 3 are clear and based on the empirical experience of Unit 1. The Company has demonstrated that it has worked closely with the State to insure minimal harm to the surrounding environment.

2725

We defer to other agencies for radiation and thermal pollution standards, safety, and water quality.

HUD Reservation

The preliminary statement is a commendable one. It deals with future growth trends in the area, and due to past experience, land use controls are established. The change from cooling towers which produce extensive fogging to a cooling lake shows flexibility and responsiveness to environmental problems. However, there is no indication that any local or regional planning agency has been consulted in the design of Unit 3. In general, we believe that consultation with local planning agencies should be initiated before the circulation of environmental statements to Federal agencies. In any event, we suggest that even though the construction is almost complete, the final statement should include comments from a planning agency such as that designated by the Bureau of the Budget Circular A-95. The preliminary statement should be submitted to:

State Clearing House  
Office of the Governor  
205 State House  
Springfield, Illinois 62706

\* \* \* \* \*

When the final statement is distributed we request that a copy be sent to our Regional Administrator, Mr. Francis D. Fisher, 360 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60601.

Sincerely yours,



Charles J. Orlebeke  
Deputy Under Secretary



Faded header text, possibly containing a date and recipient information.

Main body of faded text, likely the primary message or report content.

Second section of faded text, possibly a signature block or a specific instruction.

Third section of faded text, possibly a closing or a reference to another document.

*Handwritten signature*

Faded text at the bottom of the page, possibly a footer or a reference number.