

# Commonwealth Edison Company

72 WEST ADAMS STREET \* CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

June 26, 1969

Dr. Peter A. Morris, Director  
Division of Reactor Licensing  
U.S. Atomic Energy Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20545

Subject: Fish and Wildlife Service report relative to  
Operating License Applications for Dresden 2/3  
filed under AEC Dkts 50-237 and 50-249,  
respectively

Dear Dr. Morris:

Regulatory

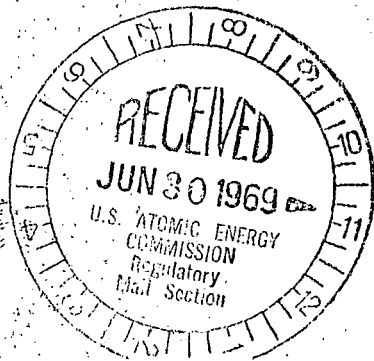
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Your letter of July 18, 1968, requested that Commonwealth Edison review the report on Dresden 2 and 3 prepared by the U.S. Department of Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service, as documented in their letter to you dated July 15, 1968. In addition, you requested that we submit comments on the radiological matters discussed in the U.S. Department of Interior report.

The Department of Interior letter indicates that Controls for Radiation, Inc. has been performing radioactivity monitoring services for Commonwealth. Eberline Instrument Corp. is now performing this service. Looking to the future, we may elect to employ other contractors for this work, or to perform any part or all of it using our own staff.

Commonwealth has and will continue to cooperate with the appropriate regulatory agencies having jurisdiction over radiological matters in planning its post-operational radiological monitoring programs.

The radiological monitoring program now in effect at Dresden Nuclear Power Station and which we propose to continue when Unit 2 goes into operation, includes collecting and analyzing samples of water, slime and bottom sediment obtained from various locations downstream of the plant's outfall. The sediment samples are collected about 100 feet from this outfall and from downstream on the Illinois River near Morris, Illinois. The slime and water samples are collected at both the intake and outfall of the plant and downstream on the Illinois River at the EJ&E bridge located below the Dresden lock and dam. These samples are analyzed for gross beta activity and are gamma



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scanned. This sampling program reflects the experience of over ten years of environmental monitoring at Dresden and is, in our judgment, entirely adequate for ensuring that the plant is operated in accordance with the terms and conditions of its AEC license and the requirements of the AEC's regulations contained in 10 CFR 20. Moreover, the U.S. Public Health Service recently completed an extensive environmental survey of the Dresden Station environs. The results of this survey confirm the adequacy of our sampling program and provide a comprehensive base line for future studies. Should the results of our environmental surveys at any time indicate the desirability of expanding the number of downstream sampling locations, our program will be adjusted accordingly.

We discontinued taking the fish and plankton samples in the Illinois River because analyses of samples taken both above and below the Dresden outfall which were made by our contractors disclosed no interesting concentrations of radionuclides relatable to Dresden. The recent environmental survey by the U.S. Public Health Service confirms that the concentrations of radioactive substances in such animals are far below the levels of interest from the standpoint of the public health and safety. Upon start up of Dresden 2, Commonwealth will reinstate aquatic animal sampling and will continue it for at least one year after Unit 3 goes into operation or for such additional period as may be necessary to demonstrate that no harmful effects on fish and wildlife are occurring as a result of Dresden Station operations.

We will forward copies of our environmental monitoring program reports to the U.S. Department of Interior every six months, beginning when Dresden 2 goes into service, for a period of one year following the start up of Dresden 3 and such additional period as may be mutually agreed upon at that time.

Modifications of the station structures or operations will be made in the unlikely event that harmful concentrations of radioactivity from the Dresden Station occur in fish and wildlife.

The State of Illinois Sanitary Water Board has regulatory jurisdiction over the cooling water discharged from Dresden Station to the Illinois River. The State has adopted water quality standards, including temperature limits, pursuant to the Water Quality Act of 1965 and these have been approved by the Secretary of Interior. We have made temperature surveys downstream of the Dresden Station outfall

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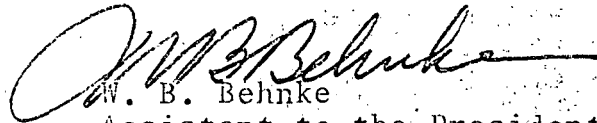
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and will be responsive to the State of Illinois with respect to compliance with these water quality standards. We will also cooperate with the Illinois Department of Conservation when planning for the improvement of conditions in the Illinois River.

Please let me know if you have any further questions on these matters.

Very truly yours,



W. B. Behnke  
Assistant to the President

SUBSCRIBED and SWORN to  
before me this 26<sup>th</sup> day  
of June, 1969.

Patricia A. Nelson  
Notary Public