UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

March 5, 1985

Docket No. 50-237/249
LS05-85-03-002

Mr. Dennis L. Farrar
Director of Nuclear Licensing
Commonwealth Edison Company
Post Office Box 767
Chicago, Illinois 60690

Dear Mr. Farrar:

SUBJECT: INSERVICE TESTING PROGRAM - SECOND 10 YEAR INTERVAL

Re: Dresden Nuclear Power Station, Unit Nos. 2 and 3

By letters dated October 5, 1981, December 10, 1982 and January 2, 1985, you submitted a proposed inservice inspection and testing program description and requests for relief from selected ASME Code requirements pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(g). Although we have not completed our detailed review of your submittal, our preliminary review makes clear to us that your proposed program to implement those ASME Code requirements that you have found to be practical would increase the scope of inservice testing for your facility beyond that currently required by your Technical Specifications. We have concluded that this upgrading of your inservice testing program will further enhance safety.

Based on our preliminary review, we agree with the determination that it is impractical within the limitations of design, geometry and materials of construction of components, for you to meet certain of the specified ASME Code requirements and that imposition of those requirements would result in hardships or unusual difficulties without a compensating increase in the level of quality of safety. Therefore, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(6)(i), we hereby grant relief until the staff completes its detailed review or until February 28, 1986, whichever comes first, from those inservice testing requirements of the ASME Code that you have requested. The staff has determined that where stated the Code requirements are impractical, the granting of this relief is authorized by law and will not endanger life or property or the common defense and security, and is otherwise in the public interest considering the burden that would result if they were imposed on your facilities. Therefore, you are authorized to, and should proceed to, implement your proposed program (except where your current Technical Specifications are more restrictive).

During the period between now and the date we complete our detailed review of your submittal, you must comply with both your existing Technical Specifications and your proposed inservice testing program. In the event conflicting requirements arise for some components, you must comply with

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the more restrictive requirements (e.g., shorter inspection intervals, increased number of parameters measured). In other words, the granting of this relief from ASME Code requirements should not be interpreted to give you relief from any of the requirements in your existing Technical Specifications.

When our detailed review of your submittals is complete we will: (1) issue final approval of your program (which may contain modifications resulting from the staff's review) and, (2) grant relief from any ASME Code requirements that are determined to be impractical for your facility for the duration of the inspection interval.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

John A. Zwolinski, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #5
Division of Licensing

cc:
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Chairman
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