



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

MAY 22 1979

Mr. Cordell Reed
Assistant Vice President
Commonwealth Edison
P.O. Box 767
Chicago, Illinois 60690

Dear Mr. Reed:

This is in response to your letter of May 10, 1979 to Mr. Harold E. Collins of this office concerning your request for an additional 90 day extension of the comment period on the NRC/EPA Task Force Report, NUREG-0396.

The original comment period commenced with the publication of the first Federal Register Notice concerning this report on December 15, 1978. The original comment period expired on March 30, 1979, a period of 3½ months. On April 18, 1979, the comment period was extended until May 15, 1979 by a second Federal Register Notice. In the interim period of time, between March 30th and April 18th, we indicated to interested callers requesting more time, that we would continue to accept their comments. In practice, Federal agencies generally are very lenient in accepting comments after the comment periods expire and such has been our case.

Altogether then, we have had this report out for comment for about 5 months, and we see no need to extend the comment period further. I seriously doubt that any "findings and conclusions" derived from any "studies and analyses" being performed by government or industry groups will add anything of substance to the report and its recommendations in an additional 90 day period. No one else has requested more time to comment on the report.

We are committed to bring this matter before our Commission and the EPA Administrator in July 1979. Commonwealth Edison has commented on the report already. If you have additional comments that you wish to make, and can get them to us very quickly, say prior to June 1, 1979, we will consider them.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By
Robert G. Ryan

Robert G. Ryan, Director
Office of State Programs

555345

7907120748

ROISMAN
79-98

①