UNITED STATES OF AMERICA NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

In the Matter of COMMONWEALTH EDISON COMPANY (Zion Station, Units 1 and 2) Docket Nos. 50-295 50-304

SUPPLEMENTAL TESTIMONY OF JOEL E. KOHLER ON CONTENTION 2(f)(2)

On May 1, 1979, the Board issued an order which, among other things, denied the NRC Staff motion for summary disposition of Contention 2(f)(2). This testimony addresses the following portion of the factual issue which the Board stated remained for consideration with regard to Contention 2(f)(2):

> The possible increased probability and potential consequence of accidental damage to spent fuel assemblies as a result of . . . possible sliding or tipping of the fuel storage racks during installation and fuel assembly transfers.

Sliding or tipping of new fuel racks during installation should be prevented by the planned utilization of a lifting rig to raise and lower the rack. The lifting rig encloses the fuel rack and contains four evelets or contact points, approximately 90° apart, through which lifting cables would be run. The rack, correctly rigged, will be lifted vertically during movement. Handheld quide wires will be used to insure that the racks do not rotate.

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The fuel racks sit on embedments, which are part of the liner. The empty weight of one rack is approximately 40,000 pounds. Since this weight far outweighs the weight of one fuel assembly (1,900 pounds), and since the fuel racks have feet, tipping of the fuel rack during transfer is not possible.

In conclusion, the use of a lifting rig and guide wire to assure proper alignment, as well as the empty weight of the fuel rack, should prevent sliding or tipping of fuel racks during installation and fuel transfer.

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OF JOEL E. KOHLER

I am employed in the Nuclear Regulatory Commission Office of Inspection and Enforcement, Region III, as resident inspector at the Zion Generating Station. I have held this position since March, 1979. Prior to this assignment I was assigned to the Region III Office in the Reactor Operations and Nuclear Support Branch. My duties in this position involved inspections in the areas of containment leak rate testing, reactor physics startup testing, refueling, maintenance, and general plant operations. Before my assignment in Region III, I held the position of radiological safety engineer with the Atomic Energy Commission's regulatory staff. I have been continuously employed by the former Atomic Energy Commission and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission since 1972.

I have received a Bachelor of Arts degree in mathematics from Temple University and a Masters of Engineering in nuclear engineering from New York University. In addition, I have received two certificates of qualification from the USNRC in Pressurized Water Reactor and Boiling Water Reactor Technology. I am a member of the American Nuclear Society.

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