Northern Illinois University DeKalb, Illinois 60115

Department of Biological Sciences 815 753 1753 815 753 0433

25 June 1979

The Honorable Joseph M. Hendrie Chairman, Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear ~ airman Hendrie,

I believe it imperative that an environmental impact assessment be prepared prior to the chemical decontamination planned for Commonwealth Edison's Dresden Station, Unit One, near Morris and Joliet, Illinois, on the Kankankee River.

Although our knowledge of the migration of radionuclides within biological systems and throughout the environment remains imperfect, the published account of Jeffrey Means, et al., (Science, Vol. 200, 30 June 1978) unequivocally demonstrates the very serious and unacceptable consequences decontaminate chelating agents (such as may be used by Commonwealth Edison) pose for the biosphere.

I urge that you give this request for an Environmental Impact Statement your close and immediate attention and that you inform me of your view of the matter.

Respectfully,

Bruce W. von Zellen, Ph.D. Professor - Biological Sciences

cc: The Honorable Tom Corcoran
Administrator Douglas Costle
The Honorable Charles Percy
The Honorable David Shapiro, Illinois Senate Minority Leader
Attorney General William Scott
Governor James Thompson

BWVZ/asw

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