



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

March 9, 1982

Honorable Nunzio J. Palladino
Chairman
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

50-454

SUBJECT: REPORT ON THE BYRON STATION UNITS 1 AND 2

Dear Dr. Palladino:

During its 263rd meeting, March 4-6, 1982, the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards reviewed the application of the Commonwealth Edison Company (Applicant) for a license to operate Byron Station Units 1 and 2. A tour of the facility was made by members of the Subcommittee on February 25, 1982, and a Subcommittee meeting was held in Rockford, Illinois on February 26, 1982 to consider this project. During its review, the Committee had the benefit of discussions with representatives of the Applicant and the NRC Staff. The Committee also had the benefit of the documents listed. The Committee commented on the construction permit application for this Station in its report dated May 13, 1975.

The Byron Station is located in Ogle County, Illinois, about 17 miles southwest of Rockford. Rockford is the nearest densely populated center and had a 1980 population of about 140,000 people.

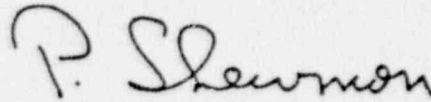
The Byron Station uses two Westinghouse four-loop pressurized water reactors, each having a rated power level of 3425 MWt. Each is housed in a steel-lined, reinforced concrete containment building with a design pressure of 50 psig. Construction of Unit 1 is about 82% complete and Unit 2 is about 70% complete.

The Applicant now has seven operating reactors and has accumulated over 80 reactor years of operating experience. We reviewed the Applicant's staffing, training, and technical support capabilities for the Byron Station and believe that these capabilities are satisfactory.

The NRC Staff has identified in its Safety Evaluation Report dated February 1982 certain Unresolved Safety Issues as being applicable to the Byron Station as well as a number of Outstanding Items, Confirmatory Issues, and License Conditions; these include some TMI Action Plan requirements. We believe that these issues can be resolved in a manner satisfactory to the NRC Staff and recommend that this be done.

The Committee believes that, if due consideration is given to the recommendation above, and subject to satisfactory completion of construction and preoperational testing, there is reasonable assurance that the Byron Station Units 1 and 2 can be operated at power levels up to 3425 MWt without undue risk to the health and safety of the public.

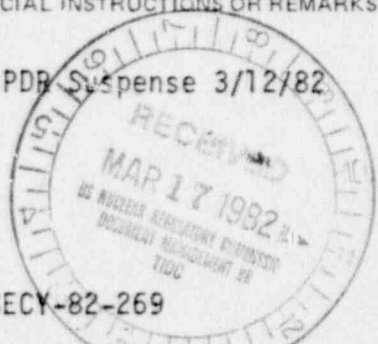
Sincerely,



P. Shewmon
Chairman

References

1. Commonwealth Edison Company, "Final Safety Analysis Report for the Byron/Braidwood Stations," including Amendments 1-36.
2. U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission "Safety Evaluation Report Related to the Operation of Byron Station, Units 1 and 2," NUREG-0876, dated February 1982.
3. Letter from League of Women Voters of Rockford, Illinois regarding the agenda of the ACRS Subcommittee meeting on Byron on February 26, 1982 in Rockford, Illinois dated February 26, 1982.
4. Letter from Elizabeth McKay to P. Shewmon regarding grouting of plant foundations with bentonite, dated February 26, 1982.

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Report on the Byron Station Units 1 & 2		 <p>PDR Suspense 3/12/82</p> <p>SECY-82-269</p>		
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To: Chairman Palladino Date 3/9/82
Subject: Report on Byron 1 & 2

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