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April 21, 1980

Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Subject: Byron Station Units 1 and 2
Braidwood Station Units 1 and 2
Proposed FSAR Changes for 17 x 17
Optimized Fuel Assemblies
NRC Docket Nos. 50-454, 50-455, 50-456,
and 50-457

Dear Mr. Denton:

Please be advised that the first cores for the Byron and Braidwood Units will employ the Westinghouse manufactured 17x17 Optimized Fuel Assemblies (OFA) in place of the Westinghouse 17x17 Standard Fuel now referenced in the Byron and Braidwood FSAR. A description and generic safety analyses utilizing OFA are documented in the Westinghouse WCAP-9500, Reference Core Report, presently undergoing NRC review.

An FSAR amendment will be filed by Commonwealth Edison during the first quarter of 1981 to reflect the change in fuel design. The amendment will include the following:

1. Minor revisions to the comparison table in Section 1.3.
2. Complete replacement of Chapters 4 and 15. These chapters will essentially duplicate the information in Chapters 4 and 15 of WCAP 9500. Any differences will be noted.
3. A revised minimum ECCS containment backpressure will be provided in Section 6.2.1.5.
4. Revision to Chapter 16 to reflect the results of plant specific analyses.

The above changes were discussed at the meeting held in Bethesda on March 14, 1980.

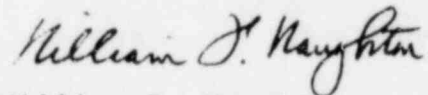
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Please address any additional questions that you might have concerning this matter to this office.

One (1) signed original and fifty-nine (59) copies of this letter are provided for your use.

Very truly yours,



William F. Naughton
Nuclear Licensing Administrator
Pressurised Water Reactors

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