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May 6, 1980

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

Subject: Zion Station Units 1 and 2
Reactor Pressure Vessel Upper
Shelf Energy - Appendix 10 CFR 50
NRC Docket Nos. 50-295 and 50-304

Dear Mr. Denton:

Pursuant to the requirement of Paragraph V.E., of Appendix G of 10 CFR 50, Commonwealth Edison Company hereby informs the NRC Staff that it has estimated that the upper shelf energy of the core beltline region welds in both Zion Reactor Pressure Vessels may fall below the 50 ft.-lb level in 1983. This estimate is based on preliminary data and appears to be conservative. Commonwealth Edison has scheduled another surveillance capsule for examination this summer and anticipates that a review of the data from this capsule will verify the conservatism of our estimate. Upon such a verification, Commonwealth Edison will withdraw this letter.

In addition, the requirements of Paragraph V. C. of Appendix G of 10 CFR 50 need to be addressed. Commonwealth Edison will inform the NRC Staff of the status of the program required by this paragraph as the data becomes available.

Please be advised that Zion Surveillance Capsules contain wedge-opening-loading (WOL) specimens. The WOL specimens are in storage at Battelle Memorial Institute. Commonwealth Edison is currently waiting for an NRC Staff disposition on how these specimens should be tested, i.e. to measure dynamic or static fracture toughness. An NRC Staff response with regard to this matter would be appreciated.

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

One (1) signed original and thirty-nine (39) copies of this letter are provided for your use.

Very truly yours,

M. J. Naughton

for D. L. Peoples
Director of
Nuclear Licensing