

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

Dec. 26, 1989

Docket Nos. 50-254 and 50-265

> Mr. Thomas J. Kovach Nuclear Licensing Manager Commonwealth Edison Company Post Office Box 767 Chicago, Illinois 60690

Dear Mr. Kovach:

SUBJECT: QUAD CITIES NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2 - REGULATORY EFFECTIVENESS REVIEW

This letter conveys the conclusions of the Regulatory Effectiveness Review (RER) conducted by the NRC's Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation at Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station, Units 1 and 2, from November 13-17, 1989. The RER team was composed of NRC personnel assisted by members of the U.S. Army Special Forces. The purpose of the RER program is to assure that safeguards implemented at licensed power reactors meet NRC performance objectives and that NRC safeguards regulations adequately support those objectives.

The RER conclusions are documented in the enclosed report (Part I, Safeguards Systems Effectiveness Review; Part II, Safety/Safeguards Interface Review; and Part III, Vital Area Definition). This enclosure, which contains safeguards information of a type specified in 10 CFR 73.21, will not be placed in the Public Document Room, and must be protected against unauthorized disclosure.

The elements of the Quad Cities safeguards program reviewed during the RER were generally outstanding. In the essential areas of protected area intrusion detection, alarm assessment, and armed response, the Quad Cities security system should provide exceptionally high assurance of protection against radiological sabotage by an external adversary with the characteristics specified in NRC's design basis threat. This is the second consecutive RER at a Commonwealth Edison Company site where the team noted numerous improvements made as a result of recent self-audits. Many of these improvements were innovative and avoided potential weaknesses demonstrated during RER's at other sites. The effectiveness of the security program during the RER performance testing and evaluation at both Dresden and Quad Cities provided persuasive evidence of outstanding prior planning by site and corporate management.

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Mr. Thomas J. Kovach

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The enclosed report does not convey any new regulatory requirement. However, the findings have been considered with respect to your ability to meet the general performance objective and requirements of 10 CFR 73.55(a). We believe that correction of the safeguards program concerns could result in improvement in your site's safeguards program effectiveness. Because of the high level of safeguards effectiveness at the Quad Cities station, no specific response is required to this report. However, we expect that Commonwealth Edison will review the concerns and observations for appropriate action.

The reporting and/or record keeping requirements contained in this letter affect fewer than ten respondents; therefore, CMB clearance is not required under P.L. 96-511.

Sincerely,

Gary M. Holahan, Acting Director Division of Reactor Projects - III, IV, V and Special Projects
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:

Regulatory Effectiveness Review
Report (Part I, Safeguards System
Effectiveness Review, Part II,
Safety/Safeguards Interface Review,
Part III, Vital Area Definition)

oc w/enclosures: R. Higgins, SRI

cc w/o enclosures: See next page

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