



Commonwealth Edison

Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station
22710 206 Avenue North
Cordova, Illinois 61242
Telephone 309/654-2241

NJK-78-656

October 30, 1978

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

REFERENCE: Quad-Cities Nuclear Power Station
Docket No. 50-254, DPR 29, Unit 1
Docket No. 50-265, DPR 30, Unit 2
Appendix A, Sections 3.8.B.3.c(1) and
3.8.B.3.b

Dear Mr. Denton:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you, in accordance with Technical Specification 3.8.B.3.b, that the average release rate for radioiodine and radioactive materials in particulate form with half-lives greater than eight days during the calendar quarter from July 1 to September 30, 1978, was 2.03 times the Technical Specification 3.8.B.3.c(1) design objective.

The release rates were high at various times for different reasons during the course of the quarter. The major problems occurred during July. Leaks from seal rings on the suction and discharge valves for the 1A reactor cleanup pump were found on July 5 and 10. Repairs were made on July 7 and 11, respectively. In addition, a leak on the Unit 2 Reactor Core Isolation Cooling (RCIC) System testable check valve was found on July 26 and was repaired on July 28. On September 19, a leak was found on a reactor water cleanup system valve, and was repaired the same day.

Initially, it was felt that the timely repair of the identified leaks and subsequent reduction in the iodine and particulate release rates from the reactor vent stack would be sufficient to bring the total station release rate below the design objective.

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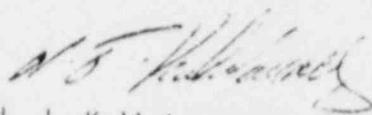
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When calculations indicated that the quarterly average release rates for the combined main chimney and reactor vents were above the design objective, a detailed further investigation was begun. It was discovered that during July, the iodine and particulate release rates for the main chimney had increased by a factor of approximately two; however, this increase was masked by the more evident elevated release rates from the reactor vents. This increased release rate continued through the remainder of the quarter, causing the design objective to be exceeded.

A comprehensive evaluation of the elevated main chimney release rate is being undertaken so as to identify the source and to initiate proper corrective action. The results of these investigations and sampling will be reported to you in a follow-up letter.

Very truly yours,

COMMONWEALTH EDISON COMPANY
QUAD-CITIES NUCLEAR POWER STATION



N. J. Kalivianakis
Station Superintendent

NJK/RAF/lak

cc: M. S. Turbak
L. Heuter, NRC Region III