

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

DOCKETED
USNRC

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD ⁸⁴ OCT -5 AM 11:24

In the Matter of)
)
COMMONWEALTH EDISON COMPANY)
)
Byron Nuclear Power Station,)
(Units 1 & 2))

Docket Nos. 50-454-OL
50-455-OL

OFFICE OF SECRETARY
DOCKETING & SERVICE
BRANCH

AFFIDAVIT OF RICHARD P. TUETKEN

1. My name is Richard P. Tuetken. I am employed by Commonwealth Edison Company (CECo) and hold the position of Startup Coordinator for the Byron Station. In that position I am responsible for overall coordination of construction, and preoperational and startup testing operations associated with the commissioning of the Byron Station. My educational and work experience is summarized in testimony previously submitted before the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (ASLB). (Prepared Testimony, ff. Tr. 8404.)

2. The purpose of this affidavit is to explain the status of Unit 1 of the Byron Nuclear Power Station with respect to its readiness for fuel loading. I have been asked by counsel to make this assessment on the assumption that a favorable decision had been issued by the ASLB as of the date of my affidavit. On that assumption and barring any unforeseen circumstances, we expect that the Byron Unit 1 will be ready for fuel loading by October 15, 1984. The remaining technical and administrative tasks necessary for plant operation are discussed below.

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3. Before fuel may be loaded at Byron, the water in the reactor coolant system and refueling canal must be borated to a level of 2000 ppm. The process of borating the water in these systems takes approximately 30 days. This process has already begun and is expected to be completed by October 15, 1984.

4. Also prior to fuel loading, all of the systems necessary for Mode 6 operations (i.e., the refueling mode, which covers initial fuel load) must meet the Technical Specification requirements for operability. Surveillances required to demonstrate the operability of the systems applicable to Mode 6 operations are currently in progress. In addition, CECO's Operating Department has determined that minor system deficiencies must be resolved prior to entry into Mode 6 operations. We expect to resolve both of these items in time to commence Mode 6 operations by October 15, 1984.

5. A few matters must be resolved with the NRC before fuel may be loaded at Byron. Several positions developed by the NRC Staff during its safety evaluation review require further discussion and resolution. In addition, several items require resolution with the NRC Region III Staff. These matters include the resolution of minor deficiencies that were identified during preoperational testing which CECO proposes to defer until after fuel load and a number of other open items. Based on discussions with the staffs of Region III and Nuclear Reactor Regulation, we expect that the deferrals will be approved and all open matters closed by October 15, 1984.

6. Other than as discussed above, I know of no other current impediments to the loading of fuel at Byron Unit 1.

7. The foregoing statements are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Richard P. Tuetken
RICHARD P. TUETKEN

SUBSCRIBED and SWORN

to before me this

28th day of September

1984.

Hazel M. Ross
NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires December 6, 1984