

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

MAR 2 6 1985

Docket Nos. 50-373/374

Mr. Dennis L. Farrar Director of Nuclear Licensing Commonwealth Edison Company P.O. Box 767 Chicago, Illinois 60690

Dear Mr. Farrar:

SUBJECT: II.F.2 - INSTRUMENTATION FOR DETECTION OF INADEQUATE CORE COOLING LA SALLE COUNTY STATION, UNITS 1 & 2

Generic Letter 84-23, "Reactor Vessel Water Level Instrumentation in BWRs," identified two categories of potential improvements in BWR water level instrumentation which would give increased assurance that the water level instrumentation will provide the inadequate core cooling instrumentation required by NUREG-0737, Item II.F.2 and thereby satisfy this requirement. These improvements are (1) improvements that will reduce level indication errors caused by high drywell temperature and (2) replacement of the mechanical level indication equipment with analog level transmitters unless operating experience confirms high reliability.

By letter dated December 4, 1984, Commonwealth Edison responded to Generic Letter 84-23. The December 4 letter discusses two potential designs for reducing the level indication errors caused by high drywell temperature. Either of the two designs would be acceptable to the NRC staff. Engineering work is in progress on a guard pipe cooling system which has been approved as a conceptual design by the NRC staff. Also, existing containment penetrations could be used to reduce the vertical drop of the reference leg to about two feet.

Commonwealth Edison has not made a final decision on which modification to elect; however, the December 4 letter states "we feel it is possible to have this modification completed by the end of the first refueling outages of both units using either system or a combination of both." This implementation date would be acceptable to the NRC staff.

Commonwealth is in the process of replacing Barton devices with Static-O-Ring and Barton trip units and transmitters. There are no plans to subsequently replace these devices with analog trip units. This is acceptable to the NRC staff.

8504080163 850326 PDR ADOCK 05000373 Upon completion of the modifications discussed above, both the license conditions 2.C.30 (i) for Unit 1 and 2.C.18 (c) for Unit 2 and the water level instrumentation for the LaSalle Plants will then be satisfied for the requirements of NUREG-0737, Item II.F.2.

Sincerely,

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A. Schwencer, Chief Licensing Branch No. 2 Division of Licensing

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Sincerely,

Original Signed By A Schwencer

A. Schwencer, Chief Licensing Branch No. 2 Division of Licensing

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La Salle

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