



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

Docket File

50-373

April 5, 1996

Mr. D. L. Farrar
Manager, Nuclear Regulatory Services
Commonwealth Edison Company
Executive Towers West III
1400 Opus Place, Suite 500
Downers Grove, Illinois 60515

SUBJECT: EXEMPTION FROM CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR PART 50, APPENDIX J, OPTION B - LASALLE COUNTY STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2 (TAC NOS. M93597 AND M93598)

Dear Mr. Farrar:

The Commission has issued the enclosed exemption from certain requirements of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix J, Option B, "Primary Reactor Containment Leakage Testing for Water-Cooled Power Reactors." This exemption is related to your application dated August 28, 1995, as supplemented by your letter dated March 4, 1996, to modify an existing exemption which: (1) allows the leak rate testing of the main steamline isolation valves (MSIVs) at a reduced pressure; and (2) excludes the measured MSIV leakage from the evaluation of the combined local leak rate test results. The original exemption related to MSIV leak rates is contained in the LaSalle County Station, Units 1 and 2, Safety Evaluation Report (NUREG-0519), issued in March 1981, as revised by Supplement No. 6 issued in November 1993.

The version of Appendix J in effect at that time is now identified as Option A. The Commission subsequently revised Appendix J in September 1995 to include a less prescriptive alternative of Appendix J identified as Option B. The staff issued license amendments on March 11, 1996, authorizing the LaSalle Station to implement Option B of Appendix J. Accordingly, the enclosed modified exemption relates to the testing requirements of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix J, Option B, Section III.B.

Your request cited above, for the modified exemption, was submitted in conjunction with a request for license amendments in which you proposed revisions to the LaSalle Technical Specifications (TSs) related to the allowable MSIV leakage and deletion of the existing leakage control system (LCS). The license amendments are being reviewed separately and are being provided under separate cover.

The modification to one part of the existing exemption is necessary in light of the proposed deletion of the MSIV LCS and the proposed use of an alternate leakage treatment (ALT) pathway as well as the proposed increase in the TS allowable MSIV leakage since these proposed revisions significantly alter the description and conditions of the exemption previously granted. The deletion of the LCS is scheduled to be implemented for LaSalle, Unit 1, during the

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present refueling outage (scheduled to be completed in early April 1996) and for LaSalle, Unit 2, during the refueling outage scheduled to begin in September 1996.

A copy of the exemption is being forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

M. David Lynch, Sr. Project Manager
Project Directorate III-2
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-373, 50-374

Enclosure: Exemption

cc w/encl: See next page

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D. L. Farrar
Commonwealth Edison Company

LaSalle County Station
Unit Nos. 1 and 2

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