



Commonwealth Edison
One First National Plaza, Chicago, Illinois
Address Reply to: Post Office Box 767
Chicago, Illinois 60690

February 5, 1985

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

Subject: Byron Generating Station Units 1 and 2
Braidwood Generating Station Units 1 and 2
Improved Thermal Design Procedure
NRC Docket Nos. 50-454/455 and 50-456/457

Reference (a): January 23, 1985 letter from T. R. Tramm
to H. R. Denton.

Dear Mr. Denton:

This letter provides additional information regarding the monitoring to be done at Byron and Braidwood stations to detect fouling of the feedwater flowmeter venturis. This supplements the information provided in reference (a) regarding License Condition 13 of the Byron Operating License, NPF-23.

To provide additional assurance that venturi fouling is not occurring, at least two of the four feedwater venturis in each unit will be inspected at the first refueling. The inspections will consist of visual examinations through special inspection ports. Representative sections of each venturi will be inspected either directly or with the aid of mirrors, borescopes, television or other suitable optical means, depending upon the individual geometry and technology available. To the extent practical, the surface of the venturi will be physically examined for roughness or unevenness by reaching through the inspection port and touching the venturi surface. These inspections will continue as described in reference (a) until it can be demonstrated to the NRC's satisfaction that venturi fouling is not occurring.

If all four venturis are cleaned during a refueling outage, no allowance for fouling will be made in the relevant setpoints and operating limits. If all four venturis are not cleaned, an allowance of 0.1% will be included to compensate for possible undetected fouling. Although this allowance has been established somewhat arbitrarily, it is believed that the inspections described above can detect venturi fouling well below the amount required to induce a flow error of 0.1%.

Please address further questions regarding this matter to this office.

Very truly yours,

T. R. Tramm
Nuclear Licensing Administrator

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Byron Resident Inspector

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