

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONCOMMONWEALTH EDISON COMPANYDOCKET NOS. 50-237/249ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OFNO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of exemptions from certain requirements of Section III.G of Appendix R to 10 CFR Part 50 to Commonwealth Edison Company (CECo) (the licensee) for Dresden Nuclear Power Station, Unit Nos. 2 and 3, located at the licensee's site in Grundy County, Illinois.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTIdentification of Proposed Action:

The proposed action would grant exemptions from certain requirements of Section III.G of Appendix R to 10 CFR Part 50 which relate to fire protection features for ensuring that systems and associated circuits used to achieve and maintain safe shutdown are free of fire damage. The exemptions are technical since the licensee must demonstrate that fire protection configurations meet the specific requirements of Section III.G or that alternate fire protection configurations can be justified by an acceptable fire hazard analysis.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed exemptions are needed because the features described in the licensee's request regarding the existing and proposed fire protection at the plant for these items are the most practical method for meeting the intent of Appendix R and literal compliance would not significantly enhance the fire protection capability at Dresden Station.

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Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The proposed exemptions will provide a degree of fire protection such that there is no increase in the risk of fires at Dresden. Consequently, the probability of fires has not been increased and the post-fire radiological releases will not be greater than previously determined nor do the proposed exemptions otherwise affect radiological plant effluents. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed exemptions.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed exemptions involve features located entirely within the restricted areas as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. They do not affect nonradiological plant effluents and have no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed exemptions.

Alternative Use of Resources: This action involves no use of resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement dated November 1973 for the Dresden Nuclear Power Station, Unit Nos. 2 and 3.

Agencies and Persons Consulted: The NRC staff reviewed the licensee's request and did not consult other agencies or persons.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed exemptions.

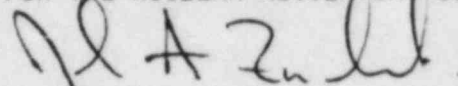
Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, we conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

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For further details with respect to this action, see the licensee's letters dated August 10, 1984 and September 18, 1985. These letters are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., and at the Morris Public Library, 604 Liberty Street, Morris, Illinois 60451.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland this 12th day of March 1986.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



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