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July 11, 1986

Mr. James G. Keppler
Regional Administrator
Region III
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
799 Roosevelt Road
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Subject: Braidwood Station Units 1 and 2
Response to Inspection Report Nos.
50-456/86-019 and 50-457/86-017
NRC Docket Nos. 50-456 and 50-457

Reference (a): W.D. Shafer letter to Cordell Reed
dated June 11, 1986.

Dear Mr. Keppler:

This letter is in response to the inspection conducted by Mr. W.B. Grant on May 19-22, 1986, of activities at Braidwood Station. Reference (a) identified a concern that recent personnel losses within the health physics program may significantly weaken the effectiveness of that program to address preoperational and operational activities. In addition, a request was made for Commonwealth Edison to inform you of our actions addressing this concern.

Braidwood Station management recognized the need to strengthen the Health Physics Staff early in 1986 and, as a first step, acquired a new Rad-Chem Supervisor with a strong operational health physics background. As a certified Health Physicist, this supervisor brought with him six (6) years of health physics experience from Zion Station, including over two (2) years as the Radiation Protection Manager. Additionally, he has received Senior Reactor Operator certification by Westinghouse for Zion Station, and in 1985 assisted in Health Physics activities during Byron's first maintenance outage.

As explained during the inspection, Braidwood Station was in the process of obtaining additional personnel to bolster both the experience levels and number of health physicists to support startup activities. The following actions have resulted:

1. A health physicist with substantial health physics expertise will be added to supplement the on-site Health Physics staff. Corporate Health Physics will assign such a person no later than September 1, 1986, with the assignment concluding at the completion of the Unit 1 startup test program. This action provides immediate strengthening of the health physics staff's expertise, while Braidwood health physicists have time to gain additional operational experience.

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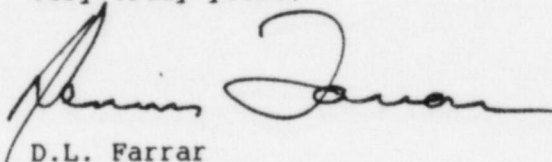
2. Three more persons are being added to the Braidwood Station staff as health physicists. Two of these individuals have been hired (B.S. degrees in Health Physics from Purdue) with reporting dates in July, 1986. The third individual, who holds an M.S. in Environmental Health, has been employed by Commonwealth Edison for approximately two years with other responsibilities and will report to Braidwood Station in August, 1986.
3. Braidwood Station will supplement the Radiation/Chemistry staff with experienced contract Senior Technicians and Technicians, as necessary, to support the needs during the Unit 1 power ascension program while Unit 2 remains under construction. Actions have been initiated to obtain these services.

In addition, weekly seminars in Operating Health Physics are planned for the Braidwood Health Physics Staff. Conducted by operationally experienced Commonwealth Edison Health Physicists, these seminars are expected to commence the week of July 21, 1986.

These organizational and programmatic steps are intended to significantly broaden the experience base of our Health Physics Organization, strengthen the Health Physics Program, and increase the effectiveness and control over both pre-operational and operational activities.

If you have any further questions on this matter, please direct them to this office.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "D.L. Farrar", written in a cursive style.

D.L. Farrar
Director of Nuclear Licensing

cc: NRC Resident Inspector - Braidwood