

Commonwealth Edison Company
Byron Generating Station
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November 8, 1999

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United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Byron Station, Unit 2
Facility Operating License No. NPF-66
NRC Docket No. STN 50-455

Subject: Core Operating Limits Report for Byron Station, Unit 2 Cycle 9 (BY2C9)

Byron Station, Unit 2 has recently completed its 8th cycle of operation and is currently preparing for Cycle 9 startup. The estimated startup date is November 15, 1999. The purpose of this letter is to advise you of our review of the Cycle 9 reload under the provisions of 10 CFR 50.59 and in accordance with Technical Specification 5.6.5, "Core Operating Limits Report," to transmit the Core Operating Limits Report (COLR) for the upcoming cycle.

The BY2C9 core, which consists of NRC-approved fuel designs, was designed to operate within approved fuel design criteria and Technical Specifications such that:

- 1) core operating characteristics will be equivalent to or less limiting than those previously reviewed and accepted; or
- 2) re-analyses or re-evaluations have been performed to demonstrate that the limiting postulated Updated Final Safety Analysis Report events which could be affected by the reload are within allowable limits.

We have performed a detailed review of the revised reload licensing documents, the associated bases, and references. Based on that review, a safety evaluation was prepared, which concluded that the reload presents no unreviewed safety questions and requires no Technical Specification changes. The Byron Plant Review of the 10 CFR 50.59 Safety Evaluation has been completed in accordance with station procedures. Finally, further verification of the reload core design will be performed during startup testing.

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If there are any questions regarding this letter, please contact Mr. Karl Moser, Acting Regulatory Assurance Manager, at (815) 234-5441, extension 2159.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W Levis', with a stylized flourish at the end.

William Levis
Site Vice President
Byron Station

WL/JL/dpk

Attachment: Core Operating Limits Report, Byron Station, Unit 2 Cycle 9

cc: Regional Administrator – NRC Region III
NRC Senior Resident Inspector – Byron Station