



February 25, 2000

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

Braidwood Station, Units 1 and 2
Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-72 and NPF-77
NRC Docket Nos. STN 50-456 and STN 50-457

Byron Station, Units 1 and 2
Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-37 and NPF-66
NRC Docket Nos. STN 50-454 and STN 50-455

Subject: Notification of Missed 30-Day Reports of Emergency Core Cooling System Evaluation Model Changes and Errors Required by 10 CFR 50.46, "Acceptance criteria for emergency core cooling systems for light-water nuclear power reactors"

- References: (1) R. M. Krich (ComEd) letter to USNRC, "Annual and 30-Day Report of the Emergency Core Cooling System Evaluation Model Changes and Errors Required by 10 CFR 50.46," dated April 21, 1999.
- (2) R. M. Krich (ComEd) letter to USNRC, "Annual 10 CFR 50.46 Report," dated April 23, 1998.

This letter is to inform the NRC that Commonwealth Edison (ComEd) Company did not submit 30-day reports of the Emergency Core Cooling System Evaluation Model Changes and Errors required by 10 CFR 50.46(a)(3)(ii) for the Byron and Braidwood Stations in April and December of 1998. This omission was inadvertent.

In order to support the installation of the Byron and Braidwood Stations' Unit 1 Replacement Steam Generators (RSGs) in 1997 and 1998, respectively, the Small Break Loss of Coolant Accident (SBLOCA) analysis was re-performed. The new analysis resulted in a significant change (i.e., reduction) to the Peak Cladding Temperature (PCT) of more than 50°F from the temperature calculated for the limiting transient using the last acceptable model.

February 25, 2000
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Page 2

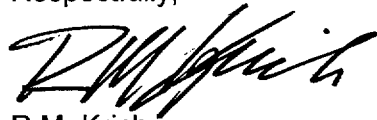
Byron Station, Unit 1, cycle 9, began operation on March 8, 1998 with the RSGs. Therefore, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.46(a)(3)(ii), we were required to report the significant change in PCT for the SBLOCA analysis within 30 days, i.e., by April 7, 1998. The revised PCT was not reported within 30 days, but was reported in the 1998 Annual 10 CFR 50.46 Report (Reference 2). Similarly, Braidwood Station, Unit 1, cycle 8, began operation on November 14, 1998 with the RSGs. Therefore, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.46(a)(3)(ii), we were required to report the significant change in PCT for the SBLOCA analysis within 30 days, i.e., by December 14, 1998.

The revised PCT was not reported within 30 days, but was reported in the 1999 Annual 10 CFR 50.46 Report (Reference 1).

The missed 30-day reports for the Byron and Braidwood Stations have no impact on the PCT or on any other information provided in the referenced annual 10 CFR 50.46 reports. These annual reports accurately reflect the PCT for the Byron and Braidwood Stations for both the SBLOCA and the Large Break Loss of Coolant Accident analyses. A corrective action document was generated, and a Root Cause Investigation is in progress to identify programmatic deficiencies and to determine appropriate corrective actions in order to avoid repeat occurrences.

Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Ms. K. M. Root at (630) 663-7292.

Respectfully,



R.M. Krich
Vice President - Regulatory Services

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