



Commonwealth Edison
1400 Opus Place
Downers Grove, Illinois 60515

January 23, 1991

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Mr. A. Bert Davis
Regional Administrator - Region III
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
799 Roosevelt Road
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Subject: Dresden Nuclear Power Station Units 2 and 3
Status of Radwaste Room Cleanup Efforts
NRC Docket Nos. 50-237 and 50-249

- References:
- (a) NRC/CECo Management Meeting at NRC Region III office (Glen Ellyn, Illinois) on September 20, 1989 (Meeting Report 50-237/89020 and 50-249/89019).
 - (b) NRC/CECo Management Meeting at NRC Region III office (Glen Ellyn, Illinois) on May 30, 1990.
 - (c) M. Richter (CECo) letter to A.B. Davis (NRC), dated August 27, 1990.

Dear Mr. Davis:

During a meeting with your staff on September 20, 1989 (Reference (a)), Commonwealth Edison Company (CECo) discussed the conditions of the Spent Resin Tank Room and Sludge Tank Room in the Dresden Station Unit 2/3 Radwaste Building. Additionally, in a meeting with your staff on May 30, 1990 (Reference (b)), CECo reported that a further review of limited access areas in the Radwaste Building identified two (2) new locations (Waste Concentrator Vaults and Main Concentrated Waste Tank Vault) for potential cleanup efforts. Reference (c) provided a status of the cleanup efforts for the tank rooms, and indicated that the vault locations would be evaluated for potential cleanup efforts. This letter provides an update on those items.

The cleanup effort for the Spent Resin Tank Room floor was completed on September 28, 1990. A robot was utilized to assist with this cleanup effort in order to minimize personnel exposure during the process.

Upon completion of the Spent Resin Tank Room, efforts were directed to the cleanup of the Sludge Tank Room. As indicated in Reference (c), a sparging technique was previously utilized and found to be ineffective in removing the sludge from the floor. The robot which proved effective in the cleaning of the Spent Resin Tank Room has been utilized for the Sludge Tank Room; however, operational difficulties were encountered. The robot manufacturer has been consulted to assist with enhancements to improve the effectiveness and reliability of the robot. CECo believes the robot can be utilized to effectively clean the Sludge Tank Room, and efforts will continue using this technique. At this time, it is estimated that the cleanup of the Sludge Tank Room is approximately ten percent (10%) complete.

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It should also be noted that in addition to the cleanup of the Sludge Tank Room, Dresden Station will be expending resources on other radwaste cleanup efforts. While these other projects may have some impact on the Sludge Tank Room cleanup effort, CECO is currently assessing the resources required to ensure that the appropriate attention is given to each project.

Contingent upon effective operation of the robotics being employed, it is expected that the cleanup efforts for the Sludge Tank Room will be completed by June 30, 1991.

The evaluation for potential cleanup efforts of the Waste Concentrator Vaults and the Main Concentrated Waste Tank Vault has not been completed at this time. It is expected that the evaluation will be completed by March 31, 1991. At that time, CECO will notify you of the plans for those vaults.

Although the Sludge Tank Room cleanup effort is taking longer than originally expected, the limited material quantities as well as the facility design provides assurance that there is no adverse impact on safe plant operation or the environs. Additionally, access to the Sludge Tank Room (and vaults) is restricted to prevent inadvertent entry. For this cleanup effort, CECO will continue to utilize techniques which will minimize personnel exposure.

Please contact this office should further information be required.

Respectfully,



M.H. Richter
Nuclear Licensing Administrator

cc: NRR Document Control Desk
B. Siegel - NRR Project Manager
D. Hills - Senior Resident Inspector, Dresden
L. Greger - EPRP Branch Chief, Region III

MR:lmw