

February 3, 2006

Mr. Christopher M. Crane  
President and Chief Nuclear Officer  
Exelon Nuclear  
Exelon Generation Company, LLC  
Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station and  
Dresden Nuclear Power Station  
4300 Winfield Road  
Warrenville, IL 60555

SUBJECT: COMMITMENTS AND PLANS RELATED TO EXTENDED POWER  
UPRATE OPERATION AT DRESDEN AND QUAD CITIES NUCLEAR  
POWER STATIONS

Dear Mr. Crane:

This refers to Exelon Generation Company, LLC (EGC), Letter RS-06-015, dated January 26, 2006, which provided your commitments and plans regarding operation of the Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station Units 1 and 2 and Dresden Nuclear Power Station Units 2 and 3 at extended power uprate (EPU) conditions following the recent discovery of degraded electromechanical relief valve (ERV) actuators at Quad Cities. Your commitments included keeping both Quad Cities units at pre-EPU power level (2511 Mwt) until the ERV root cause evaluation is complete, necessary corrective actions are implemented, and a meeting is held with the NRC to discuss those actions. Your letter also discussed your actions and remaining commitments with respect to the steam dryers at the Quad Cities and Dresden Nuclear Power Stations and operation at EPU power.

The NRC staff has conducted a review of the information in your January 26, 2006, letter regarding the commitments and plans related to the ERVs, steam dryers, and operation of the Quad Cities and Dresden units at EPU power levels. The NRC has no regulatory basis to take exception with your proceeding as described in your January 26, 2006 letter. However, based on vibration related problems that have continued to be identified during operation at EPU power levels, the staff expects that your root cause and corrective actions will not be narrowly focused on the ERV issues in terms of flow-induced vibration. Rather, our view is that you need to resolve the questions surrounding the cause of the severe vibration damage, the adequacy of the vibration qualification of the ERVs and other plant components, the location for accelerometer monitoring of susceptible plant components, the establishment of appropriate acceptance criteria for plant vibration, the performance of detailed inspection walkdowns, and the evaluation of results. We look forward to discussing these issues with your staff.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Mark Ring of my staff at (630) 829-9703.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, and any responses you provide will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records System (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Sincerely,

/RA/

Mark A. Satorius, Director  
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 50-237; 50-249; 50-254; 50-265  
License Nos. DPR-19; DRP-25; DPR-29; DPR-30

cc: Site Vice President - Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station  
Site Vice President - Dresden Nuclear Power Station  
Dresden Nuclear Power Station Plant Manager  
Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station Plant Manager  
Regulatory Assurance Manager - Quad Cities  
Regulatory Assurance Manager - Dresden  
Chief Operating Officer  
Senior Vice President - Nuclear Services  
Senior Vice President - Mid-West Regional  
Operating Group  
Vice President - Mid-West Operations Support  
Vice President - Licensing and Regulatory Affairs  
Director Licensing - Mid-West Regional  
Operating Group  
Manager Licensing - Dresden and Quad Cities  
Senior Counsel, Nuclear, Mid-West Regional  
Operating Group  
Document Control Desk - Licensing  
Vice President - Law and Regulatory Affairs  
Mid American Energy Company  
Assistant Attorney General  
Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety  
State Liaison Officer, State of Illinois  
State Liaison Officer, State of Iowa  
Chairman, Illinois Commerce Commission  
D. Tubbs, Manager of Nuclear  
MidAmerican Energy Company

C. Crane

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**/RA/**

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Operating Group  
Manager Licensing - Dresden and Quad Cities  
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Vice President - Law and Regulatory Affairs  
Mid American Energy Company  
Assistant Attorney General  
Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety  
State Liaison Officer, State of Illinois  
State Liaison Officer, State of Iowa  
Chairman, Illinois Commerce Commission  
D. Tubbs, Manager of Nuclear  
MidAmerican Energy Company

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