

WESTERN UNION INCOMING

*Bob O'H*

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U.S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMM.

TLXA248 WAA325(1849)(1-028833C332)PD 11/28/73 1830 X UNIT

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PMS MR J F O'LEARY DIRECTOR DIRECTORATE OF LICENSING

US ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION WUX

WASHDC 20545

SUBJECT DPR-25 DRESDEN NUCLEAR POWER STATION UNIT 3. THIS WILL CONFIRM A CONVERSATION WITH MR MAURA OF YOUR OFFICE AT 1500 HOURS THIS DATE CONCERNING FAILURE OF MO-3-1201-2 TO ISOLATE ON LOW REACTOR LEVEL ABOVE 2011 NOVEMBER 27, 1973 OTHER VALVES IN THE SYTEM CLOSED PROPERLY. INITIATING SIGNAL WAS RESULT OF FEED WATER CONTROL SYSTEM PROBLEM AND NOT ASSOCIATED WITH CLEAN UP PIPING LEAKS ELECTRICIAN FOUND PROBLEM WITH AUXILIARY CONTACT ON BREAKER COIL AND CORRECTED SAME. VALVE WAS SATISFACTORILY CYCLED PRIOR TO REACTOR START UP

W P WORDEN, SUPERINTENDANT

DRESDEN NUCLEAR POWER STATION

COMMONWEALTH EDISON COMPANY RR 1

MORRIS IL

NNNN

940PEST

USAEC HQS GTWN

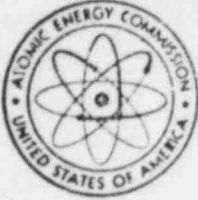


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*Henry 50249*

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RO Files

UNITED STATES  
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE OF REGULATORY OPERATIONS  
REGION III  
799 ROOSEVELT ROAD  
GLEN ELLYN, ILLINOIS 60137

TELEPHONE  
(312) 858-2660

November 27, 1973

Commonwealth Edison Company  
ATTN: Mr. Byron Lee, Jr.  
Vice President  
P. O. Box 767  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

Dockets No. 50-10  
50-237  
50-249  
50-254  
50-265

Gentlemen:

The enclosed Directorate of Regulatory Operations Bulletin No. 73-6, "Inadvertent Criticality in a Boiling Water Reactor," is sent to you to provide you with information that was reported\* to the AEC by the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation concerning an inadvertent criticality incident that was experienced in the Vermont Yankee facility. This information may have direct applicability to your facilities. Action requested on your part is identified in Section A of the enclosed bulletin.

Very truly yours,

James G. Keppler  
Regional Director

Enclosure:  
RO Bulletin No. 73-6

bcc: RO Files  
DR Central Files  
PDR  
Local PDR

\*Ltr dtd 11-8-73 to Directorate of Regulatory Operations, Region I,  
King of Prussia, Pa.

\*Ltr dtd 11-14-73 to Directorate of Licensing, USAEC, Washington, D.C.

DPE  
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Ingoing  
50-249

## INADVERTENT CRITICALITY IN A BOILING WATER REACTOR

We recently received an abnormal occurrence report from the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation relating to an inadvertent criticality incident that was experienced at their Vermont Yankee facility. A copy of this report is being sent to you under separate cover to provide you with pertinent details of this event.

At the time of the inadvertent criticality incident, the reactor vessel and primary containment heads were removed, the refueling cavity above the reactor vessel was flooded, control rod friction tests were in progress, the rod worth minimizer was bypassed, and core verification had been in progress. As a result of the incident, no measurable radioactivity was released, no fuel damage resulted and no personnel exposures were experienced. The incident is currently under review and evaluation by the Regulatory Staff.

Action requested by this bulletin is contained in Section A.

### A. Action Requested by Licensees

In light of this occurrence you are requested to take the following actions. Upon completion of these actions you are requested to inform this office in writing, within 45 days of the date of this letter, of the status of each item identified in each paragraph and subparagraph listed below:

#### 1. Procedural Review

##### a. Control Rod Drive Operating and Testing Procedures

- (1) Conduct a review of your control rod drive operating and testing procedures to determine that approved procedures exist for all operations and tests.
- (2) Verify that appropriate prerequisites are included in the procedures to require testing of associated interlocking and protection features before control rod testing is permitted.
- (3) Assure that prerequisites and detailed instructions are provided that demonstrate compliance with technical specification requirements and design bases.

b. Bypass Installation Procedures (Jumpers or Lifting of Leads)

Assure that existing bypass installation procedures have been conservatively reviewed for technical adequacy and for administrative controls.

c. Radiation Protection Procedures

Assure that procedures for access control and personnel accountability in areas subject to accidents are current.

d. Shift Transition Procedure (Turnover)

Assure that complete and detailed procedures are in effect that provide instructions for a proper and conservative turnover of shift responsibilities. Such procedures must include requirements for communicating the status of all safety related equipment and conditions.

2. Management Controls

Assure that your management controls that are in effect provide for qualified technical and administrative reviews and approvals of temporary circuitry changes and temporary off-normal plant conditions. This review should assure that the responsibilities and requirements associated with the review and approval, installation, verification, removal, and subsequent testing of temporary circuitry changes and temporary off-normal plant conditions are clearly delineated in station procedures, are understood by the station staff, and are being properly implemented.

3. Licensed Operator Performance

Assure that management provides the necessary opportunities and time so that operators are adequately trained to carry out their assigned responsibilities. In particular, confirm that shift crew members are provided special training for safety related activities that are infrequent, complex, or have unusual safety significance.

If you have any questions concerning this request, please contact this office.

Enclosure:

AO No. 7331 - Ltr dtd 11/14/73 (separate cover)



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RO File

UNITED STATES  
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION  
DIVISION OF COMPLIANCE  
REGION III  
799 ROOSEVELT ROAD  
GLEN ELLYN, ILLINOIS 60137

TELEPHONE  
(312) 858-2660

NOV 27 1973

LOCAL PUBLIC DOCUMENT ROOMS

Enclosed are copies of documents listed below relating to  
Commonwealth Edison Company, Docket  
No(s). 50-10, 50-237, 50-249.

Letter to Commonwealth Edison Company from James G. Keppler  
dated November 27, 1973.

This correspondence is submitted pursuant to arrangements made by  
the Public Proceedings Branch, Office of the Secretary, for use by  
the public.

Where possible, these materials should be punched and filed in a  
folder labeled as follows:

CORRESPONDENCE TO AND FROM APPLICANT OR LICENSEE  
(Excluding Environmental and Antitrust)

*James G. Keppler*  
James G. Keppler  
Regional Director

Enclosures:  
As noted above

cc: Washington Public Document Room, w/encl  
Central Mail & Files Unit, Document Room Clerk, w/o encl

*Supplied  
50-249*