



Commonwealth Edison
One First National Plaza, Chicago, Illinois
Address Reply to: Post Office Box 767
Chicago, Illinois 60690

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS
POOR QUALITY PAGES

April 15, 1981



Mr. James G. Keppler, Director
Directorate of Inspection and
Enforcement - Region III
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
799 Roosevelt Road
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Subject: Dresden Station Units 1, 2, and 3
Quad Cities Station Units 1 and 2
Response to IE Bulletin 79-26 Item 4,
"Boron Loss from BWR Control Blades"
NRC Docket Nos. 50-10/237/249 and
50-254/265

- Reference (a): J. G. Keppler letter to C. Reed dated August 29, 1980 (IE Bulletin 79-26, Rev. 1)
- (b): "Control Blade Examination Results and Response to Item 4 of IE Bulletin 79-26," NEDE-24325-P, (General Electric Proprietary) and NEDO-24325, March 1981 (Enclosure).
- (c): "Evaluation of Control Blade Lifetime With Potential Loss of B₄C," NEDE-24226-P (General Electric Proprietary) and NEDO-24226, December 1979; NEDE-24226-P (General Electric Proprietary) Supplement 1, March 1981.
- (d): R. L. Gridley letter to Dr. W. A. Johnston dated April 8, 1981 (MFN-066-81)

Dear Mr. Keppler:

This letter is to provide the Commonwealth Edison Company response to Item 4 of IE Bulletin 79-26 Rev. 1, which was transmitted by Reference (a), for Dresden Units 2 and 3 and Quad Cities Units 1 and 2. The response for Dresden Unit 1, addressing bulletin items 3 and 4, will be provided prior to startup of the unit, now scheduled for June, 1986.

Enclosed is one copy each of the Reference (b) reports which satisfies the bulletin item 4 requirements for Dresden Units 2 and 3 and Quad Cities Units 1 and 2. These reports provide the results of additional post-irradiation examinations, and comparisons of the post-irradiation examination results to a new boron depletion analytical model developed by General Electric. The boron depletion

8105040519

Q

APR 16 1981

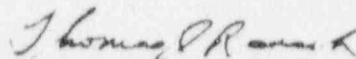
model described in Reference (b) is shown to be in good agreement with the post-irradiation examination data.

General Electric demonstrates in Reference (b) that the control blade destructive examination data presented in References (b) and (c) are applicable to and representative of, the control blades in Dresden Units 2 and 3 and Quad Cities Units 1 and 2. The reports confirm that the loss of boron based on 50% local boron depletion is predictable, and is not affected by the plant operating parameters.

Reference (b) contains information which General Electric Company customarily maintains in confidence and withholds from public disclosure. The information has been handled and classified as proprietary to General Electric, and we hereby request that NEDE-24325-P be withheld from public disclosure in accordance with provisions of 10 CFR 2.790. Reference (d) contains a General Electric affidavit on the proprietary nature of NEDE-24325-P.

Please address any questions you may have concerning this matter to this office.

Very truly yours,



Thomas J. Rausch
Nuclear Licensing Administrator
Special Projects

Enclosure (Ref. (b))

cc: Director, Division of Reactor
Operations Inspection (w/encl.)
Dr. William A. Johnston, NRC (w/o encl.)
RIII Inspector - Dresden (w/o encl.)
RIII Inspector - Quad Cities (w/o encl.)