

JUN 8 1984

Docket Nos.: 50-456  
and 50-457

Mr. Dennis L. Farrar  
Director of Nuclear Licensing  
Commonwealth Edison Company  
Post Office Box 767  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

Dear Mr. Farrar:

Subject: ASME Code Case N-401

DIST:

**Docket File** Local PDR  
NRC PDR NSIC  
PRC System LB#1 Rdg  
JStevens MRushbrook  
LWheeler OELD, Attorney

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*E Jordan*  
*N Grace*

By letter dated May 24, 1984, Commonwealth Edison Company (CECo) requested plant-specific approval to use ASME Code Case N-401, "Eddy Current Examination-Recording Data," at the Braidwood Station. This Code Case was passed by the Main Committee of the ASME on November 4, 1983 and subsequently was approved by the ASME Council. Code Case N-401 is not referenced in Regulatory Guide 1.147, "Inservice Inspection Code Case Acceptability, ASME Section XI," because of the relatively recent approval by the ASME Council.

For the preservice examination of the steam generator tubes at Braidwood Units 1 and 2, CECO plans to use a ZETEC Model MIZ-18 eddy current instrument which records digitized data on magnetic tape. CECO considers this system to be superior to other available instruments because it allows for more accurate recording of the data. However, examinations with the MIZ-18 instrument will not be in compliance with Article IV-5000 of Section XI of the ASME Code which requires that data from tube examinations be recorded on both magnetic tape and strip chart as the test probe traverses the tube. In Code Case N-401, the ASME has approved the use of digitized collection and storage of data as the permanent record as an alternative to magnetic tape and strip chart recording.

The Division of Engineering staff has reviewed Code Case N-401, found it technically acceptable, and recently recommended that the document be referenced in Regulatory Guide 1.147. Based on this conclusion, CECO's request to use Code Case N-401 at the Braidwood Station has been approved.

For further information or clarification contact the Braidwood Project Manager, Janice A. Stevens, at (301) 492-7144.

Sincerely,

*[Signature]*  
B. J. Youngblood, Chief  
Licensing Branch No. 1  
Division of Licensing

cc: See next page

CONCURRENCES:

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6/8/84

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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "B. J. Youngblood", is written over the typed name.

B. J. Youngblood, Chief  
Licensing Branch No. 1  
Division of Licensing

cc: See next page

BRAIDWOOD

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