

May 10, 1984

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The Honorable Richard L. Ottinger, Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy Conservation and Power
Committee on Energy and Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed for your information is an announcement that the Nuclear
Regulatory Commission staff has proposed a \$140,000 fine against
Commonwealth Edison Company for alleged violations of its security
and radiation protection requirements at the Dresden Nuclear Power
Station.

It is planned to mail this information to the news media today,
May 10, 1984.

Sincerely,

Carlton Kammerer, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure:
As stated

cc: Rep. Carlos Moorhead

IDENTICAL LETTER SENT TO:
Sen. Simpson/cc: Sen. Hart
Rep. Udall/cc: Rep. Lujan
Rep. Markey/cc: Rep. Marlenee
Sen. Dixon
Sen. Percy
Rep. Madigan

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SURNAME	COMBS: [initials]						
DATE	5/10/84						



UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

**Office of Public Affairs
Washington, D.C. 20555**

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301/492-7715

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Tel.
(Thursday, May 10, 1984)

NRC STAFF PROPOSES \$140,000 FINE AGAINST COMMONWEALTH EDISON AT DRESDEN NUCLEAR POWER STATION

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has proposed a \$140,000 fine against Commonwealth Edison Company for alleged violations of its security and radiation protection requirements at the Dresden Nuclear Power Station.

The fine includes a \$100,000 assessment for alleged security violations associated with a January 14, 1984, incident in which a plant employee entered the security area of the plant undetected by climbing over a gate while a portion of the plant's security system was out of service. The employee had been collecting environmental samples when his vehicle became disabled, and he sought assistance by climbing over the gate.

The two alleged violations associated with the incident were failing to report the January 14, 1984, security breach to the NRC within 24 hours, as required, and failing to take adequate compensatory measures when the portion of the security system was out of service. The incident was not reported to the NRC until January 20, 1984.

An additional \$40,000 fine was proposed for four alleged radiation protection violations which occurred October 26, 1983, when two contractor representatives entered the radioactive waste packaging area, classified as a "high radiation area," to repair equipment there. The alleged violations included failure to provide radiation protection training to the two workers, failure to provide required radiation monitoring devices to the two, failure to make radiation surveys prior to the repair work, and failure to adequately lock the waste packaging area.

The radiation exposures received by the two workers were subsequently determined to be well within NRC limits for occupational radiation exposures.

Commonwealth Edison promptly corrected the equipment and procedural problems involved with both the alleged security and radiation protection violations. In addition, disciplinary action was taken against supervisors involved in the two matters.

The utility has until June 7, 1984, to pay the fine or to protest it. If the fine is protested and subsequently imposed formally by the NRC staff, Commonwealth Edison may request a hearing.