March 2, 2006

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

SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER - LASALLE COUNTY STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2 (REPORT 05000373/2006001; 05000374/2006001)

Dear Mr. Crane:

On February 9, 2006, the NRC staff completed its performance review of the LaSalle County Station, Units 1 and 2. Our technical staff reviewed performance indicators (PIs) for the most recent quarter and inspection results for the period from January 1 through December 31, 2005. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our assessment of your safety performance during this period and our plans for future inspections at your facility.

This performance review and enclosed inspection plan do not include physical protection information. A separate letter designated and marked as “Exempt from Public Disclosure in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390” will include the physical protection review and resultant inspection plan.

Overall, the LaSalle County Station, Units 1 and 2, operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and fully met all cornerstone objectives. Plant performance for the most recent quarter, as well as for the first three quarters of the assessment cycle, was within the Licensee Response column of the NRC’s Action Matrix, based on all inspection findings being classified as having very low safety significance (Green) and all PIs indicating performance at a level requiring no additional NRC oversight (Green). Therefore, we plan to conduct only reactor oversight process baseline inspections at your facility.

In our mid-cycle assessment letter dated August 30, 2005, (ML042420465), we advised you of the continuation of a substantive cross-cutting issue in the area of human performance involving weaknesses in procedure use and adherence. The end-of-cycle assessment of this substantive cross-cutting issue included a review of inspection results over the 12-month period of January 1 through December 31, 2005. During this period, we observed improvement in the effectiveness of corrective action. We noted that while you still meet the criteria for number of human performance findings during the assessment period, no findings were identified in the last half of the assessment period having human performance aspects. Based on the trends and the ongoing corrective actions that you implemented during the assessment period, including site-wide implementation of a comprehensive human performance improvement plan, we conclude that this cross cutting issue is closed. We will continue to monitor your performance in this area during NRC baseline inspections.
The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections, less those related to physical protection scheduled through September 30, 2007. Significant inspections planned for this period include a Component Design Basis Inspection in May 2007. The inspection plan is provided to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues well in advance of inspector arrival onsite. Routine resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature. The inspections in the last 9 months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the mid-cycle review.

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

If circumstances arise which cause us to change this inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact me at (630) 829-9629 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Bruce Burgess, Chief
Reactor Projects Branch 2
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 50-373; 50-374
License Nos. NPF-11; NPF-18

Enclosure: LaSalle County Station, Units 1 and 2 Inspection/Activity Plan

DISTRIBUTION:
See next page
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JLC1
GEG
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JRK1
ROPreports@nrc.gov (inspection reports, final SDP letters, any letter with an IR number)
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This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities. This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.