

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
Region III Office of Public Affairs
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NEWS ANNOUNCEMENT: RIII-97-44
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May 7, 1997

NRC TO HOLD PREDECISIONAL ENFORCEMENT CONFERENCE ON APPARENT VIOLATIONS OF NRC
FIRE PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS AT BRAIDWOOD PLANT

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will meet May 14 with representatives of Commonwealth Edison Co. for a predecisional enforcement conference on apparent violations of NRC fire protection requirements at the Braidwood Nuclear Power Station. The plant is at Braidwood, Illinois.

The meeting will be at 1 p.m. in the Third Floor Conference Room of the NRC Region III Office, 801 Warrenville Road, Lisle, Illinois. It will be open to public observation.

The enforcement conference will review apparent fire protection violations at the Braidwood Station. The violations were initially identified by the utility in mid-1996. They included roll-up doors which did not meet the specified three-hour rating as fire doors and several instances of inadequate separation of electrical cables in parallel portions of safety systems.

These violations were covered in an NRC fire protection inspection which was conducted from October 3 of last year through January 30.

The decision to hold an enforcement conference does not mean the NRC has determined that a violation has occurred or that enforcement action will be taken. Rather, the purpose is to discuss apparent violations, their causes and safety significance; to provide the utility an opportunity to point out any errors that may have been made in the NRC inspection report; and to enable the company to outline its proposed corrective actions.

No decisions on apparent violations or any contemplated enforcement action, such as a fine, will be made at this conference. Those decisions will be made by senior NRC officials at a later date.

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