

Exelon Generation Company, LLC
LaSalle County Station
2601 North 21st Road
Marseilles, IL 61341-9757

www.exeloncorp.com

June 20, 2001

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

LaSalle County Station, Units 1 and 2
Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-11 and NPF-18
NRC Docket Nos. 50-373 and 50-374

Reference: (1) Letter from M. Schiavoni, (Exelon Generation Company, LLC), to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, "NPDES Noncompliance for LaSalle County Station - Permit No. IL0048151," dated June 20, 2001.

Subject: Notification of Noncompliance for Exelon Generation Company, LLC - LaSalle County Station NPDES Permit No. IL0048151

In accordance with the 30 day notification requirements of Technical Specifications, Appendix B, "Environmental Protection Plan", Section 5.4.2, "Non Routine Reports," a copy of the "Exelon Generation Company (ECG), LLC - LaSalle County Station NPDES IL0048151 Noncompliance Report," is attached.

On May 21, 2001, an unpermitted discharge resulted from a rupture of the station's Cooling Lake Makeup Line. In accordance with Standard Condition 12 of the LaSalle County Station National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit, Reference 1 identifies a Notice of NPDES Noncompliance is being submitted to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Division of Water Pollution Control, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region V, Enforcement Division.

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Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact
Mr. William Riffer, Regulatory Assurance Manager, at (815) 415-2800.

Respectfully,



Mark A. Schiavoni
Plant Manager
LaSalle County Station

Attachment

cc: Regional Administrator - NRC Region III
NRC Senior Resident Inspector - LaSalle County Station

EXELON GENERATION COMPANY, LLC
LASALLE COUNTY STATION
NPDES PERMIT NO. IL0048151
NONCOMPLIANCE REPORT

Outfall Name and Number

Unpermitted Discharge.

Parameter and Permit Limit

Not Applicable.

Noncompliance Description, Date and Duration

On May 21, 2001 at approximately 0600 hours, LaSalle County Station was notified by local law enforcement that water was flowing down a roadside ditch and over a county blacktop road near the River Screen House area.

Station Operations and Chemistry personnel were dispatched to investigate the problem. The Cooling Pond Make Up line was determined to have ruptured. This line is used for pumping make up water from the Illinois River to the station's Cooling Pond. The line operates in conjunction with permitted NPDES Outfall 001, Cooling Pond Blowdown, to maintain the station Cooling Pond level.

The two running Cooling Pond Make Up Pumps were secured at 0645 hours, which stopped the discharge. An estimated 2.7 million gallons of water discharged back to the Illinois River over a period of 45 minutes via an unpermitted discharge point. The station recognized the condition as a noncompliance on May 21, 2001 at approximately 1100 hours.

Cause of Noncompliance

The unpermitted discharge was caused by a spontaneous break, roughly 3 feet long, in a section of Cooling Pond Make Up line. The line is constructed of pre-stressed concrete cylindrical pipe (PCCP). The breakage began at the section joint and ran along the top of the pipe. There were no operational transients or activities in progress that could have caused the failure.

EXELON GENERATION COMPANY, LLC
LASALLE COUNTY STATION
NPDES PERMIT NO. IL0048151
NONCOMPLIANCE REPORT

Corrective and Preventative Actions

The Cooling Pond Make Up and Blowdown lines were isolated and drained. A sample of the discharged make up water was collected. Analysis determined it had a pH of 8.22, which was consistent with that in the Illinois River. Based on this analysis, the noncompliance had no significant effect on the environment.

Station Engineering and Maintenance inspected the ruptured line, and repairs were initiated. The failed line section was replaced with a new section of pipe. The system was returned to service on May 27, 2001. To prevent recurrence, the new section of pipe was procured to more modern AWWA C301-84 and ASTM A648 standards, which specify improved performance criteria for the pre-stressed concrete piping sections and heavier construction of the pipe pre-stressing wire.

Name and Number of Facility Contact

Keith Francis, Auxiliary Chemist	(815) 415-3211
Frederic D. Bevington, Environmental Specialist	(815) 415-3243