

January 31, 1989

Docket Nos. 50-373 and 50-374

Mr. Henry E. Bliss  
Nuclear Licensing Manager  
Commonwealth Edison Company  
P.O. Box 767  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

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Dear Mr. Bliss:

SUBJECT: ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT NOS. 62 AND 43 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSES NPF-11 AND NO. NPF-18 - LASALLE COUNTY STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2 (TAC NOS. 68859 AND 68860)

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 62 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-11 and Amendment No. 43 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-18 for the LaSalle County Station, Units 1 and 2. These amendments are in response to your letter dated July 12, 1988.

The amendments revise the LaSalle County Station, Units 1 and 2 Technical Specifications by reducing the Onsite Nuclear Safety Group minimum staffing requirement from four engineers to three engineers.

A copy of the related Safety Evaluation supporting Amendment No. 62 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-11 and Amendment No. 43 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-18 is enclosed. The Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's biweekly Federal Register notice.

Sincerely,

Paul C. Shemanski, Project Manager  
Project Directorate III-2  
Division of Reactor Projects - III,  
IV, V and Special Projects

Enclosures:

1. Amendment No. 62 to NPF-11
2. Amendment No. 43 to NPF-18
3. Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosures:  
See next page

PDIII-2 P.S.  
PShemanski:km  
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LLuther  
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DMuller  
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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555  
January 31, 1989

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Nuclear Licensing Manager  
Commonwealth Edison Company  
P.O. Box 767  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

Dear Mr. Bliss:

SUBJECT: ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT NOS. 62 AND 43 TO FACILITY OPERATING  
LICENSES NPF-11 AND NO. NPF-18 - LASALLE COUNTY STATION, UNITS 1  
AND 2 (TAC NOS. 68859 AND 68860)

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Sincerely,

*Paul C. Shemanski*

Paul C. Shemanski, Project Manager  
Project Directorate III-2  
Division of Reactor Projects - III,  
IV, V and Special Projects

Enclosures:

1. Amendment No. 62 to NPF-11
2. Amendment No. 43 to NPF-18
3. Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosures:  
See next page

Mr. Henry E. Bliss  
Commonwealth Edison Company

LaSalle County Nuclear Power Station  
Units 1 & 2

cc:

Philip P. Steptoe, Esquire  
Sidley and Austin  
One First National Plaza  
Chicago, Illinois 60603

John W. McCaffrey  
Chief, Public Utilities Division  
SOIC  
100 West Randolph Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60601

Assistant Attorney General  
100 West Randolph Street  
Suite 12  
Chicago, Illinois 60601

Resident Inspector/LaSalle, NPS  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Rural Route No. 1  
P. O. Box 224  
Marseilles, Illinois 61341

Chairman  
LaSalle County Board of Supervisors  
LaSalle County Courthouse  
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

Attorney General  
500 South 2nd Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62701

Chairman  
Illinois Commerce Commission  
Leland Building  
527 East Capitol Avenue  
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Mr. Michael C. Parker, Chief  
Division of Engineering  
Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety  
1035 Outer Park Drive, 5th Floor  
Springfield, Illinois 62704

Regional Administrator, Region III  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
799 Roosevelt Road, Bldg. #4  
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137



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

COMMONWEALTH EDISON COMPANY

DOCKET NO. 50-373

LASALLE COUNTY STATION, UNIT 1

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 62  
License No. NPF-11

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission or the NRC) has found that:
  - A. The application for amendment filed by the Commonwealth Edison Company (the licensee), dated July 12, 1988 complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
  - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the regulations of the Commission;
  - C. There is reasonable assurance: (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
  - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
  - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.
2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the enclosure to this license amendment and paragraph 2.C.(2) of the Facility Operating License No. NPF-11 is hereby amended to read as follows:

(2) Technical Specifications and Environmental Protection Plan

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 62, and the Environmental Protection Plan contained in Appendix B, are hereby incorporated in the license. The licensee shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications and the Environmental Protection Plan.

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3. This amendment is effective upon date of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Daniel R. Muller".

Daniel R. Muller, Director  
Project Directorate III-2  
Division of Reactor Projects - III,  
IV, V and Special Projects

Enclosure:  
Changes to the Technical  
Specifications

Date of Issuance: January 31, 1989

ENCLOSURE TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 62

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-11

DOCKET NO. 50-373

Replace the following page of the Appendix "A" Technical Specifications with the enclosed page. The revised page is identified by amendment number and contains a vertical line indicating the area of change.

REMOVE

6-2

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6-2

## ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS

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5. The Onsite Nuclear Safety Group (ONSG) shall function to examine unit operating characteristics, NRC issuances, industry advisories, Licensee Event Reports and other sources of plant design and operating experience information, including plants of similar design, which may indicate areas for improving unit safety. The ONSG shall be composed of at least three, dedicated, full-time engineers of multi-disciplines located on site and shall be augmented on a part-time basis by personnel from other parts of the Commonwealth Edison Company organization to provide expertise not represented in the group. The ONSG shall be responsible for maintaining surveillance of unit activities to provide independent verification<sup>#</sup> that these activities are performed correctly and that human errors are reduced as much as practical. The ONSG shall make detailed recommendations for revised procedures, equipment modifications, maintenance activities, operations activities or other means of improving unit safety to the Director, Nuclear Safety.
6. The Station Control Room Engineer (SCRE) serves as the lead control room SRO during normal operations and as the Shift Technical Advisor (STA) during abnormal operating and accident conditions. In the event of abnormal operating or accident conditions, the SCRE will relinquish his job as control room SRO to the Shift Foreman and will assume the role of STA, when he shall provide technical support to the Shift Supervisor in the areas of thermal hydraulics, reactor engineering and plant analysis with regard to the safe operation of the unit.
7. Administrative procedures shall be developed and implemented to limit the working hours of unit staff who perform safety-related functions; e.g, senior reactor operators, reactor operators, health physicists, auxiliary operators, and key maintenance personnel.

Adequate shift coverage shall be maintained without routine heavy use of overtime. However, in the event that unforeseen problems require substantial amounts of overtime to be used, the following guidelines shall be followed:

- a. An individual should not be permitted to work more than 16 hours straight, excluding shift turnover time.
- b. An individual should not be permitted to work more than 16 hours in any 24-hour period, nor more than 24 hours in any 48-hour period, nor more than 72 hours in any seven day period, all excluding shift turnover time.
- c. A break of at least eight hours should be allowed between work periods, including shift turnover time.
- d. The use of overtime should be considered on an individual basis and not for the entire staff on a shift.

<sup>#</sup>Not responsible for sign-off feature.



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

COMMONWEALTH EDISON COMPANY

DOCKET NO. 50-374

LASALLE COUNTY STATION, UNIT 2

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 43  
License No. NPF-18

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission or the NRC) has found that:
  - A. The application for amendment filed by the Commonwealth Edison Company (the licensee), dated July 12, 1988 complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
  - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the regulations of the Commission;
  - C. There is reasonable assurance: (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
  - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
  - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.
2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the enclosure to this license amendment and paragraph 2.C.(2) of the Facility Operating License No. NPF-18 is hereby amended to read as follows:

(2) Technical Specifications and Environmental Protection Plan

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 43, and the Environmental Protection Plan contained in Appendix B, are hereby incorporated in the license. The licensee shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications and the Environmental Protection Plan.

3. This amendment is effective upon date of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel R. Muller". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D'.

Daniel R. Muller, Director  
Project Directorate III-2  
Division of Reactor Projects - III,  
IV, V and Special Projects

Enclosure:  
Changes to the Technical  
Specifications

Date of Issuance: January 31, 1989

ENCLOSURE TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 43

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-18

DOCKET NO. 50-374

Replace the following page of the Appendix "A" Technical Specifications with the enclosed page. The revised page is identified by amendment number and contains a vertical line indicating the area of change.

REMOVE

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## ADMINISTRATION CONTROLS

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## ADMINISTRATION CONTROLS

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5. The Onsite Nuclear Safety Group (ONSG) shall function to examine unit operating characteristics, NRC issuances, industry advisories, Licensee Event Reports and other sources of plant design and operating experience information, including plants of similar design, which may indicate areas for improving unit safety. The ONSG shall be composed of at least three, dedicated, full-time engineers of multi-disciplines located on site and shall be augmented on a part-time basis by personnel from other parts of the Commonwealth Edison Company organization to provide expertise not represented in the group. The ONSG shall be responsible for maintaining surveillance of unit activities to provide independent verification # that these activities are performed correctly and that human errors are reduced as much as practical. The ONSG shall make detailed recommendations for revised procedures, equipment modifications, maintenance activities, operations activities or other means of improving unit safety to the Director, Nuclear Safety.
6. The Station Control Room Engineer (SCRE) serves as the lead control room SRO during normal operations and as the Shift Technical Advisor (STA) during abnormal operating and accident conditions. In the event of abnormal operating or accident conditions, the SCRE will relinquish his job as control room SRO to the Shift Foreman and will assume the role of STA, when he shall provide technical support to the Shift Supervisor in the areas of thermal hydraulics, reactor engineering and plant analysis with regard to the safe operation of the unit.
7. Administrative procedures shall be developed and implemented to limit the working hours of unit staff who perform safety-related functions; e.g, senior reactor operators, reactor operators, health physicists, auxiliary operators, and key maintenance personnel.

Adequate shift coverage shall be maintained without routine heavy use of overtime. However, in the event that unforeseen problems require substantial amounts of overtime to be used, the following guidelines shall be followed:

- a. An individual should not be permitted to work more than 16 hours straight, excluding shift turnover time.
- b. An individual should not be permitted to work more than 16 hours in any 24-hour period, nor more than 24 hours in any 48-hour period, nor more than 72 hours in any seven day period, all excluding shift turnover time.
- c. A break of at least eight hours should be allowed between work periods, including shift turnover time.
- d. The use of overtime should be considered on an individual basis and not for the entire staff on a shift.

# Not responsible for sign-off feature.



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION  
SUPPORTING AMENDMENT NO. 62 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-11 AND  
AMENDMENT NO. 43 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-18  
COMMONWEALTH EDISON COMPANY  
LASALLE COUNTY STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2  
DOCKET NOS. 50-373 AND 50-374

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The proposed amendments to Operating License No. NPF-11 and Operating License No. NPF-18 would revise the LaSalle Units 1 and 2 Technical Specifications by reducing the Onsite Nuclear Safety Group minimum staffing requirement from four engineers to three engineers.

2.0 DISCUSSION AND EVALUATION

Following the accident at Three Mile Island Unit 2, the NRC staff developed the Action Plan, NUREG-0660, to provide a comprehensive and integrated plan to improve safety at power reactors. In November 1980, a set of TMI related actions from NUREG-0660, which were approved for implementation by the Commission, were published in the document NUREG-0737. Included in this NUREG was Item I.B.1.2 - Independent Safety Engineering Group (ISEG). Under the heading of "Position", the following requirements for the ISEG were provided:

"The principal function of the ISEG is to examine plant operating characteristics, NRC issuance, Licensing Information Service advisories, and other appropriate sources of plant design and operating experience information that may indicate areas for improving plant safety. The ISEG is to perform independent review and audits of plant activities including maintenance, modifications, operational problems, and operational analysis and aid in the establishment of programmatic requirements for plant activities."

"Another function of the ISEG is to maintain surveillance of plant operations and maintenance activities to provide independent verification that these activities are performed correctly and that human errors are reduced as far as practicable. ISEG will then be in a position to advise utility management on the overall quality and safety of operations."

In NUREG-0800 Item II.3.6., it is further stated that "That group shall be composed of a minimum of five dedicated, full-time engineers, located on site, but reporting off site to a corporate official who holds a high-level, technically oriented position who is not in the management chain for power production. For utilities with multiple sites, it may be possible to perform

portions of the independent safety assessment function in a centralized location for all the utility's plants. In such cases, an Onsite Group still is required, but it may be slightly smaller than would be the case if it were performing the entire independent safety assessment."

The requirement for establishing an ISEG was applied only to applicants for operating licenses. Therefore, LaSalle County Station was the first Edison station to have an ISEG followed closely by Byron and Braidwood. The size of the ISEG at each of these three stations consists of four full-time engineers. These groups are administered by the Manager of Nuclear Safety who is located in the Company corporate offices. The Manager of Nuclear Safety reports directly to the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. Three stations, Zion, Dresden and Quad Cities, do not have an ISEG.

Commonwealth Edison's nuclear program is large; there are six, two-unit nuclear stations. The completion of Braidwood Unit 2 marks the end of the construction program in the nuclear division. In June of 1987, there was major reorganization of the nuclear operations area at the corporate level. Also, a Strategic Plan for Excellence in Nuclear Operations was created to integrate the goals and action plans of all departments within the Nuclear Operations area to achieve excellence. To achieve the goals of the Strategic Plan, the reorganization had to embody strong central control and direction at the corporate level.

The new organization includes two major station support groups: The first is Licensing and Plant Support Services and the second is Training, Fuel and Administrative Services. These two groups are each headed by Assistant Vice Presidents who report directly to the Senior Vice President and are independent of plant operations. Some of the responsibilities and functions of those two groups now duplicate the efforts of the ISEG. The new corporate support groups interface with six stations, whereas the ISEG only covers three stations. The Licensing and Plant Support Services Group (LPSSG) now has responsibility for performance assessment of the six stations. They monitor station performance utilizing data trending and assessing work procedures and work practices. Among other things, they assess appropriateness of station programs in meeting regulations, standards and guidelines. In addition, they apprise station and corporate management of performance problems including identification of underlying causes and timely resolution to problems. Another function of the LPSSG is the implementation of the Operation Experience Assessment Program which includes the coordinated development of corrective actions which are uniform across the six stations.

At the station level, the Onsite Regulatory Assurance Department is under the functional control of the Nuclear Licensing Department which is in the LPSSG. This control provides consistency in the review of NRC licensing, inspection and enforcement correspondence, the tracking of commitments and evaluation of NRC policies and regulations and their impact on the operating stations.

Another department that impacts on the functions of ISEG is the operational section of the Onsite Quality Assurance Group. Like the Department of Nuclear Safety, the Quality Assurance Department is entirely independent of the Nuclear Operations area. The operational section of the Onsite Quality

portions of the independent safety assessment function in a centralized Assurance Group at each of the six stations has one to two people licensed at the SRO level. With their knowledge of plant systems and the technical specifications, they are able to perform a knowledgeable independent review and assessment of plant operations.

Since the ISEG is part of the technical specifications, the Quality Assurance Department conducts periodic audits of the ISEG to determine if they are in compliance with the requirements of the applicable section of the technical specifications.

The technical specification required functions of the ISEG are not changed by this proposed amendment. Those review items listed in Technical Specification 6.2.3.1 will continue to be reviewed by the ISEG, however, the ISEG will make further use of the corporate level independent review work in performing onsite reviews.

Based on the above information, it has been concluded by the licensee that the ISEG size could be reduced from four to three people without any loss in meeting the requirements of the technical specifications. Using the material developed by all these other support groups in the Nuclear Operations area as a base, the ISEG can perform their functions in a more effective manner with a lower investment in manhours, and hence fewer people. The option for a lower number of personnel is permitted under NUREG-0800. The staff finds the proposed amendment to be acceptable.

### 3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendment relates to changes in recordkeeping, reporting, or administrative procedures or requirements. Accordingly, the amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR Section 51.22(c)(10). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b), no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendment.

### 4.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission made a proposed determination that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration which was published in the FEDERAL REGISTER (53 FR 32292) on August 24, 1988, and consulted with the state of Illinois. No public comments were received, and the state of Illinois did not have any comments.

The staff has concluded, based on the consideration discussed above, that: (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, and (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations and the issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

5.0 REFERENCES

Letter from C. Allen, Commonwealth Edison to USNRC dated July 12, 1988.

Principal Contributor: Paul Shemanski, NRR/PDIII-2

Dated: January 31, 1989