

January 30, 1998

EA 98-025

Mr. Oliver D. Kingsley
President, Nuclear Generation Group
Commonwealth Edison Company
ATTN: Regulatory Services
Executive Towers West III
1400 Opus Place, Suite 500
Downers Grove, IL 60515

**SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-456/97018(DRS); 50-457/97018(DRS) AND
NOTICE OF VIOLATION**

Dear Mr. Kingsley:

On December 19, 1997, the NRC completed an inspection of your implementation of 10 CFR 50.65, "Requirements for Monitoring the Effectiveness of Maintenance at Nuclear Power Plants" (the maintenance rule) at the Braidwood Nuclear Power Station, Units 1 and 2. The enclosed report presents the results of that inspection.

Your program for implementing the requirements of the maintenance rule followed the guidance provided in NUMARC 93-01, "Industry Guideline for Monitoring the Effectiveness of Maintenance at Nuclear Power Plants," dated April 1996, which was endorsed in Regulatory Guide 1.160, "Monitoring the Effectiveness of Maintenance at Nuclear Power Plants," dated March 1997. Based on your recent improvement effort, your program generally met the requirements of the maintenance rule. However, two violations were identified. The first issue concerned two scoping deficiencies of the maintenance rule program. The second issue concerned establishing inappropriate reliability performance criterion for one system and the inappropriate use of plant level performance criteria for four systems.

The violations are cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice), and the circumstances surrounding the violations are described in the enclosed report. Although 10 CFR 2.201 requires you to submit a written statement of explanation, we note that the first violation has been corrected and those actions were reviewed during this inspection. Therefore, no response with respect to this violation is required. Please note that you are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response to the second violation. The NRC will use your response, in part, to determine whether further enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, the enclosure, and your response to this letter will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Sincerely,

original signed by J.A. Grobe

John A. Grobe, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-456; 50-457
License Nos. NPF-72; NPF-77

Enclosures: 1. Notice of Violation
2. Inspection Report 50-456/97018(DRS); 50-457/97018(DRS)

cc w/encs: M. Wallace, Chief of Staff
D. Helwig, Senior Vice President
G. Stanley, PWR Vice President
J. Perry, BWR Vice President
D. Farrar, Regulatory Services Manager
I. Johnson, Licensing Director
DCD - Licensing
T. Tulon, Site Vice President
Braidwood Station Manager
T. Simpkin, Regulatory Assurance Supervisor
Richard Hubbard
Nathan Schloss, Economist
Office of the Attorney General
State Liaison Officer
Chairman, Illinois Commerce Commission

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