October 27, 2003

Ms. Marilyn Kray
Vice President, Special Projects
Exelon Generation
200 Exelon Way, KSA3-E
Kennett Square, PA 19348

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF THE EXELON GENERATION COMPANY APPLICATION FOR AN EARLY SITE PERMIT FOR THE CLINTON ESP SITE

Dear Ms. Kray:

On September 25, 2003, Exelon Generation Company, LLC (Exelon) submitted, under 10 CFR Part 52, an application for an early site permit (ESP) for property co-located with the existing Clinton Power Station facility near Clinton, Illinois, hereafter identified as the Clinton ESP site. Notice of receipt and availability of this application was published in the *Federal Register* (68 FR 61020, October 24, 2003).

The NRC staff has determined that Exelon has submitted sufficient information in accordance with 10 CFR 52.17 such that the application is acceptable for docketing. However, the NRC staff's determination does not preclude requests for additional information as the review proceeds. The Docket Number established for this application is 52-007. The staff will conduct a detailed review of all application material during its review and will forward requests for additional information to Exelon as necessary.

This letter forwards the staff's safety and environmental review schedule for the Exelon ESP application (Enclosure 1). The staff will follow established review procedures and the enclosed schedule to complete the safety and environmental reviews required by 10 CFR Parts 52 and 51, respectively. The 35-month review schedule includes time for the mandatory hearing required by the regulations. Milestones for hearing activities are not included in the enclosed schedule because these dates are established by the Commission and the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board. We would like to stress that this is a very ambitious schedule and that the staff will make every effort to meet or exceed the milestones. Therefore, we request that you inform the staff as early as possible should potential delays arise in your support of the schedule.

Finally, we have enclosed, for your information, a copy of the notice related to the application that has been forwarded to the *Federal Register* for publication (Enclosure 2). A separate notice will be published, in accordance with the provisions of 10 CFR 2.104, regarding the opportunity to file a petition for leave to intervene in the mandatory hearing required for this application.

If you have any questions or comments concerning this matter, you may contact Ms. Nanette Gilles, the NRC Project Manager for review of Exelon's ESP application, at (301) 415-1180 or nvg@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

James E. Lyons, Program Director
New, Research and Test Reactors Program
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 52-007

Enclosures: As stated

cc w/encls: See next page

If you have any questions or comments concerning this matter, you may contact Ms. Nanette Gilles, the NRC Project Manager for review of Exelon's ESP application, at (301) 415-1180 or nvg@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

James E. Lyons, Program Director
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Docket No. 52-007

Enclosures: As stated

cc w/encls: See next page

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