

Exelon Generation Company, LLC  
Byron Station  
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December 17, 2004

LTR: BYRON 2004-0131  
File: 2.01.0700

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Attention: Document Control Desk  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Byron Station, Unit 1 and Unit 2  
Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-37 and NPF-66  
NRC Docket Nos. STN 50-454 and STN 50-455

Subject: Notification of Deferral of a Generic Letter (GL) 89-13 Component Cooling  
Heat Exchanger Inspection

- References:
- 1) Generic Letter 89-13, "Service Water System Problems Affecting Safety Related Equipment, dated July 18, 1989"
  - 2) Letter from M.H. Richter (Exelon) to NRC Document Control Desk, "Response to Generic Letter 89-13, dated January 29, 1990"
  - 3) Letter from S.E. Kuczynski (Exelon) to NRC Document Control Desk, "Regulatory Commitment Change Summary Report, dated April 1, 2004"

Byron Station Unit 1 and 2 have a shared Component Cooling (CC) Water Heat Exchanger (i.e., OCC01A). Conducting a visual inspection of this heat exchanger on a frequency of once per 5 years is part of our commitment to GL 89-13. In Reference 3 we notified the NRC of a revision to this commitment to allow a 25% grace period to the 5-year frequency in order to facilitate scheduling.

OCC01A was successfully inspected in the first four inspections since implementation of the GL 89-13 Program (i.e., June 1990, January 1992, July 1993, and June 1998.) However, the fifth inspection scheduled for September 2004 could not be accomplished due to the inability to obtain proper isolation of the heat exchanger due to degraded essential service water isolation valves. September 2004 was the end of the 5-year plus 25% interval.

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An Engineering Evaluation concluded that it was acceptable to defer this inspection by 6 months until the Unit-1 refueling outage (i.e., B1R13) scheduled for March 2005. This extension was based on historic inspection and Eddy Current Test results of OCC01A, comparison to the other CC heat exchangers and operational parameters of the OCC01A during plant cooldowns for at least the last two refuel outages. During B1R13 outage period, a preferred thermal performance test is planned for this heat exchanger versus a visual inspection. Subsequent to this performance test, a suitable periodic inspection of OCC01A will be chosen but not to exceed a nominal 5-year frequency.

Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact William Grundmann, Regulatory Assurance Manager, at (815) 406-2800.

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Respectfully,



Stephen E. Kuczynski  
Site Vice President  
Byron Nuclear Generating Station

cc: Regional Administrator – NRC Region III  
NRC Senior Resident Inspector – Byron Station  
NRC Project Manager – NRR – Byron Station  
Office of Nuclear Facility Safety – Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety

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