

DCD/DCB

March 6, 1998

EA 98-122

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 50-237/97021(DRS); 50-249/97021(DRS)  
AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Kingsley:

This letter refers to the inspection conducted on October 21, 1997 through January 27, 1998, at the Dresden Nuclear facility. The purpose of the inspection was to evaluate the effectiveness of your engineering organization in performing routine and reactive site activities, including controls for the identification, resolution and prevention of technical issues and problems that could degrade the quality of plant operations or safety. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report.

Overall, the inspection determined that your engineering staff was effective in the identification and resolution of technical issues. Self-assessments exhibited a pro-active trend in the attempt to disclose performance problems within the engineering organization. The quality of engineering reviews were in most cases technically sound. As a result, we have concluded that all commitments and corrective actions identified by Confirmatory Action Letter (CAL) No. RIII-96-016, dated November 21, 1996, including those activities associated with the Dresden Engineering Assurance Group (DEAG) have satisfied NRC requirements. The CAL was closed.

Based on the results of this inspection, the NRC has determined that three violations of NRC requirements occurred. The first violation identified that a written safety evaluation had not been performed when a prior inadvertent change to the control room ventilation system design deleted the automatic smoke purge mode transfer capability. The second violation identified that the Fire Protection Report had not been updated and submitted to the NRC for approximately three years. The third violation identified that the fire protection pre-plans had not been updated for approximately five years. The three violations were of concern because they involved the fire protection program and were related to an inadequate awareness of fire protection program requirements.

These violations are cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice), and the circumstances surrounding the violations are described in detail in the subject inspection report. 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. The NRC will use your response, in part, to

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determine whether further enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

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

We will gladly discuss any questions you have concerning these inspections.

Sincerely,

/s/ Harold O. Christensen for

John A. Grobe, Director  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-237; 50-249  
License Nos. DPR-19; DPR-25

Enclosures: 1. Notice of Violation  
2. Inspection Report 50-237/97021(DRS);  
50-249/97021(DRS)

cc w/encls: M. Wallace, Senior Vice President  
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See Attached Distribution

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