



June 4, 1999

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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Braidwood Station, Units 1 and 2
Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-72 and NPF-77
NRC Docket Nos. STN-456 and STN 50-457

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

Dresden Nuclear Power Station, Units 2, and 3
Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-19 and DPR-25
NRC Docket Nos. 50-237 and 50-249

LaSalle County Station, Units 1 and 2
Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-11 and NPF-18
NRC Docket Nos. 50-373 and 50-374

Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station, Units 1 and 2
Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-29 and DPR-30
NRC Docket Nos. 50-254 and 50-265

Zion Nuclear Power Station, Units 1 and 2
Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-39 and DPR-48
NRC Docket Nos. 50-295 and 50-304

Subject: Engineering Assurance Group

- References:
- (1) Letter from J. S. Perry (ComEd) to A. B. Beach (U. S. NRC) dated November 8, 1996.
 - (2) Letter from T. J. Maiman (ComEd) to A. B. Beach (U. S. NRC), "Programs to Improve the Quality, Maintenance, and Accessibility of the Design Bases at ComEd Nuclear Stations," dated November 12, 1996.
 - (3) Letter from W. T. Subalusky (ComEd) to U. S. NRC, "Response to NRC Inspection Report No. 50-373/96011; 50-374/960119 (DRS)," dated January 10, 1997.

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- (4) Letter from F. R. Dacimo (ComEd) to U. S. NRC, "Supplemental Response to NRC Inspection Report No. 50-373/96011; 50-374/960119 (DRS)," dated April 10, 1998.
- (5) Letter from J. J. O'Connor (ComEd) to U. S. NRC, "Commonwealth Edison Company's (ComEd) Response to U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Request for Information Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.54(f) Regarding Safety Performance at ComEd," dated March 28, 1997.
- (6) Letter from O. D. Kingsley, Jr. (ComEd) to U. S. NRC, "Integration of Section 50.54(f) Commitments Into the Nuclear Generation Group Strategic Reform Initiatives," dated February 17, 1998.

The purpose of this letter is to inform the NRC of the deletion of a commitment regarding the Engineering Assurance Group (EAG) at each of the Commonwealth Edison (ComEd) Company nuclear stations. The Reference 1 and 2 letters included commitments to establish an EAG consisting of experienced engineering personnel to provide oversight of key engineering activities at Dresden Nuclear Power Station and each of the other ComEd nuclear stations, respectively. These letters also stated that EAG would continue these functions until normal engineering activities have improved to the point where these reviews are no longer necessary. The Reference 3 letter provided the response to an NRC Notice of Violation for LaSalle County Station. In this response, the commitment was made that the EAG at LaSalle County Station would perform in-line reviews of certain engineering products. The Reference 4 letter provided clarification regarding the engineering products that would be reviewed in-line by the EAG at LaSalle County Station. The Reference 5 letter provided the response to the NRC 10 CFR 50.54(f) letter requesting information regarding safety performance at the ComEd nuclear stations. This response restated the commitments for the EAG previously made in the Reference 1 and 2 letters. In the Reference 6 letter, the commitments related to EAG, from the Reference 5 letter, were integrated into the ComEd Nuclear Generation Group (NGG) Strategic Reform Initiative NGG-8, "Prioritize and Enhance Execution of Engineering Improvements," but no change was made to the nature of the commitment.

The commitments related to EAG were implemented to improve the quality of engineering products at the ComEd nuclear stations. The original commitments stated that the EAG would function until normal engineering activities had improved. The EAG function has resulted in improvements in engineering product quality at ComEd. In order to sustain engineering product improvements, engineering supervision accountability for the quality of work must be clearly established. With the elimination of the EAG function, engineering supervision will be clearly responsible and accountable for engineering product quality at Braidwood Station, Byron Station, Dresden Nuclear Power Station, LaSalle County Station, Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station, and Zion Nuclear Power Station.

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Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Mr. J. A. Bauer at (630) 663-7287.

Respectfully,



R. M. Krich

Vice President - Regulatory Services

cc: Regional Administrator - NRC Region III
NRC Senior Resident Inspector - Braidwood Station
NRC Senior Resident Inspector - Byron Station
NRC Senior Resident Inspector - Dresden Nuclear Power Station
NRC Senior Resident Inspector - LaSalle County Station
NRC Senior Resident Inspector - Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station