



**Commonwealth Edison**

One First National Plaza, Chicago, Illinois  
Address Reply to: Post Office Box 767  
Chicago Illinois 60690

May 11, 1982

Mr. James G. Keppler, Regional Administrator  
Directorate of Inspection and  
Enforcement - Region III  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
799 Roosevelt Road  
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Subject: Byron Station Units 1 and 2  
Braidwood Station Units 1 and 2  
Diesel Generator Strainer Basket  
Defect  
NRC Docket Nos. 50-454, 50-455,  
50-456 and 50-457

Reference (a): February 1, 1982, letter from  
F. B. Stolba, Cooper Energy Services  
and Enforcement, NRC

Dear Mr. Keppler:

On April 23, 1982, L. Bowen of Commonwealth Edison reported to J. Neisler of your office a defect in the Byron/Braidwood diesel generator lube oil strainers. This defect is reportable pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55(e). In accordance with a request from Region III, control numbers 82-01 and 82-02 are assigned to this report for Byron and Braidwood Stations, respectively.

Description of Deficiency

Cooper Energy Services has advised the NRC (reference (a)) and Commonwealth Edison that the emergency diesel generators at Byron and Braidwood each contain a defective strainer basket located in the lube oil strainers. After performance testing the mesh strainer basket liner was found to be torn loose at the top of the basket where the perforated sidewall and the liner were sandwiched between two flanges.

Safety Implications

Recent testing indicates that the strainer mesh disintegrates after it tears and could then pass through the engine bearings. If this were to occur, one or more engine bearings would probably fail and the unit would be incapable of performing.

J. G. Keppler

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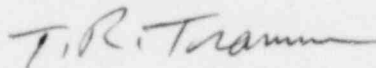
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Corrective Action

A new basket has been designed and tested. It will be installed in all eight Byron/Braidwood diesels prior to fuel load.

Please address further questions regarding this matter to this office.

Very truly yours,



T. R. Tramm  
Nuclear Licensing Administrator

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cc: Director of Inspection & Enforcement

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