Docket No. 50-461

Illinois Power Company
ATTN: J. S. Perry
Senior Vice President
Clinton Power Station
Mail Code V-275
P. O. Box 678
Clinton, IL 61727

Dear Mr. Perry:

Enclosed for your review, is the SALP 12 Report for the Clinton Power Station Nuclear Plant, covering the period May 1, 1992 through November 27, 1993. As discussed between Dick Phares of your staff and Anthony McMurtray of this office, a meeting to discuss this report with you and your staff has been scheduled at the Clinton Visitor Center, on January 21, 1994, at 1:00 p.m. (CST).

During this meeting you are encouraged and expected to candidly discuss any comments you may have regarding our report. While this meeting is considered a presentation and discussion forum between Illinois Power Company and the NRC, the meeting will be opened to any other interested parties as observers.

In accordance with NRC policy, I have reviewed the recommendations resulting from the SALP Board assessment and concur with their ratings and views. It is my view that overall, your conduct of nuclear activities in connection with the Clinton Power Station facility was good. Our analysis indicated that your performance has shown steady improvement over the last two SALP periods. The foundation of this overall good performance has been strong management oversight and control of plant activities. This led to a clear focus on safety by plant personnel and improved operating performance. Engineering's safety focus and good support to other organizations resulted in successful resolution of emergent issues and existing equipment problems. In the area of Plant Support, your early implementation of the new 10 CFR Part 20 requirements was viewed as excellent. The areas of Plant Operations and Maintenance were assigned Category 1 ratings, reflecting excellent performance. The areas of Engineering and Plant Support received Category 2 ratings, reflecting good performance in each of these areas.

While your performance in Maintenance during the most recent outage declined and was disappointing, on balance your aggressive corrective actions and overall strong performance during the rest of the period contributed significantly to the Category 1 rating you achieved.

Continuing challenges involve: in the Engineering area, understanding of design basis, root cause analysis, and improving 10 CFR 50.59 reviews; and in the Plant Support area, the radiation protection function with regard to

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reducing outage radiation exposure, improving dose projection, and improving housekeeping, especially during outages. The need to reduce radiation exposure was a task facing all of the groups at Clinton.

Your program for self assessment has contributed to your improved performance and, with continued emphasis, should be a significant factor in further improvement. The independent safety engineering and off-site review committee were particularly effective at assessing the impact on shutdown safety by the refueling outage schedule and line management was effective in developing and implementing corrective actions for identified problems. While your quality assurance audit and surveillance programs were generally effective at identifying problems, documentation was occasionally weak, depriving senior management of valuable information on plant performance. Corrective action program implementation across the SALP functional areas was mixed with additional attention required in the radiological deficiency reporting and engineering root cause analysis areas.

In accordance with Section 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, a copy of this letter and the SALP report will be placed in the NRC's Public Document Room.

Should you have any questions concerning the SALP Report, we would be pleased to discuss them with you. While no written response is required, if you wish, you may provide written comments within 30 days of the SALP meeting.

Sincerely, Original Signed by H. G. Hiller

John B. Martin

Regional Administrator

Enclosure: SALP 12 Report No. 50-461/93001

See Attached Distribution

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RIII Amartin Our review of your self-assessment activities indicated excellent efforts by your off-site review committee and independent safety engineering group. Of particular note were your assessments of shutdown safety impacts in the refueling outage schedule. In other activities your performance was mixed. Line management was effective in developing and implementing corrective actions for identified problems. However, documentation of identified problems in some audits and surveillances was weak, which resulted in senior management's lack of awareness of some problem areas. Your radiological deficiency reporting program was poorly implemented. Your engineering department's root cause analysis of hardware problems was inconsistent which contributed to corrective actions that occasionally were not thorough. Self assessment activities did not identify the root cause analysis and the corrective action weaknesses in engineering identified during this SALP period. Some activities, such as the problem with the residual heat removal box support were excellent, while others did not always identify the source of the problem when equipment failed.

In accordance with Section 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2. Title 10. Code of Federal Regulations, a copy of this letter and the SALP report will be placed in the NRC's Public Document Room.

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Original Sugar by

John B. Martin

Regional Administrator

Enclosure: SALP 12

Report No. 50-461/93001

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MINISTER

* Concurrence by telephone

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