

R3 files

February 4, 1994

Docket No. 50-461

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

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF VIOLATION (NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-461/93026 (DRS))

Dear Mr. Perry:

This letter refers to the inspection conducted by Mr. H. A. Walker and others of this office from December 6, 1993 through January 11, 1994. The inspection included a review of authorized activities for your Clinton Power Station. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report. These discussions included supplemental discussions at the plant on December 22, 1993 and discussions by telephone on January 11, 1994.

Areas examined during the inspection are identified in the report. The purpose of the inspection was to determine whether activities authorized by the license were conducted safely and in accordance with NRC requirements. The inspection included an assessment of the quality and effectiveness of maintenance activities. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observations of activities in progress.

Overall, we determined that maintenance activities were effectively implemented. Plant housekeeping and material condition were satisfactory; QA audits and surveillances of maintenance activities were performance oriented and effectively identified maintenance problems, and; corrective and preventive maintenance were effective. A weakness was noted in the area of documentation, cause investigation, and corrective actions identified in condition reports. In some instances, extensive discussions were necessary to ensure that the problems were correctly resolved.

Based on the results of this inspection, certain of your activities appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements, as specified in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice). The violation is of concern because conditions that could possibly impact the operation of the high pressure core spray (HPCS) system were not corrected promptly. This appeared to be due to a failure to recognize the possible safety significance of equipment problems in assigning priorities. You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. In your response, you should document the specific actions taken and any additional actions you plan to prevent recurrence. In addition, the

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inspectors expressed concerns with your position that the HPCS pump discharge check valve had no closing safety function (Unresolved item 461/93026-02 (DRS)). In your response, we request that you describe the actions you have taken or plan to take on these issues.

After reviewing your response to this Notice, including your proposed corrective actions and the results of future inspections, the NRC will determine whether further NRC enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with NRC regulatory requirements.

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

The responses directed by this letter and the accompanying Notice are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, PL 96-511.

We will gladly discuss any questions you have concerning this inspection.

Sincerely,  
original signed by

Geoffrey C. Wright, Chief  
Engineering Branch

Enclosures:

- 1. Notice of Violation
- 2. Inspection Report  
No. 50-461/93026(DRS)

cc w/enclosures:

- J. Cook, Vice President & Manager,  
Clinton Power Station
- R. Phares, Director - Licensing  
OC/LFDCB
- Resident Inspector, Clinton,  
Dresden, LaSalle, Quad Cities
- Project Manager, NRR
- J. McCaffrey, Chief, Public  
Utilities Division
- K. K. Berry, Licensing Services Manager  
General Electric Company
- Chairman, DeWitt County Board
- Robert Newmann, Office of Public  
Counsel, State of Illinois Center
- State Liaison Officer
- Chairman, Illinois Commerce  
Commission

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