ILLINOIS POWER
CLINTON POWER STATION, P.O. BOX 678, CLINTON, ILLINOIS 61727-0678, TELEPHONE (217) 935-8881

U-601762
L30-90(12-06)LP
1A.120

December 6, 1990

Docket No. 50-461

Document Control Desk
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Subject: Oil Release Prompted by Dredging in Clinton Lake at Clinton Power Station

Dear Sir:

Illinois Power Company (IP) is submitting the attached report in accordance with Appendix B - Environmental Protection Plan of the Clinton Power Station (CPS) Technical Specifications. This report addresses the oil release which occurred on November 6, 1990.

Sincerely yours,

F. A. Spangenberg, III
Manager, Licensing and Safety

SFB/alh

Attachments(4)

cc: NRC Clinton Licensing Project Manager
NRC Resident Office
NRC Region III, Regional Administrator
Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety

C001
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Illinois Power Company
Decatur, Illinois

Report on the Oil Spill Incident
at Clinton Power Station on
November 6, 1990

1. Name of facility: Clinton Power Station

2. Name of Owner or Operator of facility:

Illinois Power Company
500 South 27th Street
Decatur, Illinois 62525

3. Location of Facility:
Approximately six miles northeast of Clinton, Illinois, Township 20 North, Range 3 East of the 3rd Principle Meridian, DeWitt County

4. Date and Year of Initial Facility Operation: February 27, 1987

5. Maximum Oil Storage or Handling Capacity of the Facility:
The maximum oil storage or handling capacity of Clinton Power Station is 198,304 gallons. Of this total,approximately 151,311 gallons are diesel fuel or gasoline, 43,093 gallons are lubrication oils and 4,000 gallons are used oil. All oil is delivered in tank trucks or drums.

6. Description:
Clinton Power Station consists of a single nuclear steam generating unit which is rated at 985 Megawatts.

7. A Complete Copy of the Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures Plan(SPCC):
A complete copy of the SPCC plan and supporting procedure that was in effect at the time of the incident is enclosed. The last review of the SPCC plan was completed on September 29, 1989.

8. Cause of the spill - Including a Failure Analysis of the System:
On November 6, 1990, Illinois Power Company reported a discharge of oil to Clinton Lake. The source of the release was disturbance of the lake bottom resulting from the dredging operation to remove accumulated silt from the Ultimate Heat Sink in Clinton Lake (see attached figure). At approximately 4:13 p.m., oil was observed coming to the surface above the cutter head. An estimated 25 to 50 gallons of oil came to the surface. Wind and wave action spread the oil sheen to shoreline areas north and northeast of the dredging operation. Some oil was also pumped by the dredge to the dredging disposal

facility. Oil was reported to have stopped coming to the surface at 5:30 p.m.

9. Immediate Corrective Action and/or Counter Measures Taken:

(a) Dredging operations were stopped and the cutter head was raised and inspected to ensure that there was not a hydraulic leak. No leak was found.
(b) Oil booms and absorbent materials were set out during the night of November 6th into the morning of the 7th in all areas where an oil sheen was observed. O. H. Materials, Inc. was called in to assist with containment of the spill.
(c) A sample of the liquid was sent to EMS Laboratories (Indianapolis, IN.) for identification. EMS confirmed that the oil was diesel fuel.
(d) The location of the oil source was surveyed so that the location could be found again at a later date.
(e) Illinois Power collected bottom soil samples and found signs of diesel fuel present in the top layer of the original bottom soils(beneath the silt). Diesel fuel was evident when the clumps of soil were broken apart.
(f) A diver tried to find a container (e.g. drum, pipe, tank, etc.) on/in the soils that might have held the oil. No containers were found.
(g) No environmental impact was noted after the cleanup of the release.

10. Additional Preventative Measures Taken or Planned to Minimize the Possibility of Recurrence:

(a) The Dredging Barge was moved past the location of the spill by 100 feet before the dredging operation was resumed.

(b) John Mathes and Associates were called to conduct a geophysical survey in the area of the oil source to look for metal objects in the lake bottom which may contain oil. Core samples from the lake bottom will be collected to determine the horizontal and vertical size of any subsurface pockets of oil.

(c) Results from the geophysical survey and core sampling will be used to determine if additional actions are necessary. Illinois Power will inform the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency before any subsequent actions are taken.