



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION III  
799 ROOSEVELT ROAD  
GLEN ELLYN, ILLINOIS 60137

JAN 25 1991

Docket No. 50-461

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

Gentlemen:

In a letter dated July 19, 1990, (U-601700) you requested that two test failures on the Division I and II diesel generators (DGs), identified on May 15, 1990, be considered valid failures as reported and recorded, but for the purposes of accounting, not be included in the running total used to determine the testing frequency of the diesel generators in accordance with Technical Specifications Table 4.8.1.1.2-1.

As discussed on January 23, 1991, we recognize that you are currently testing the Division II DG on a weekly basis. This increased testing is, in part, due to a conservative failure classification, based on Regulatory Guide 1.108, of the condition discovered on May 15, 1990, which rendered the Division I and II DGs inoperable.

We have evaluated this particular DG failure classification (valid failure of both DGs) in accordance with Regulatory Guide 1.108 and have determined the following:

- (1) Based on the nature of the failure of the Division I DG (failure to adequately establish service water cooling flow due to a faulty valve lineup as opposed to resulting from a material condition problem) and our review of your corrective actions in response to this event, we have concluded that, for the purpose of increased testing frequency determinations pursuant to Regulatory Guide 1.108, the May 15, 1990, problem can be appropriately classified as an invalid failure.
- (2) Our evaluation of the circumstances surrounding the Division II DG problem concluded that the May 15, 1990, problem did not constitute a valid failure. This is based on the fact that the Division II DG was never called on to start and, therefore, never failed to start or load, nor did it trip during operation but rather was initially classified as a valid failure solely because it was determined to have the same problem as the Division I DG.

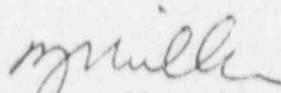
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We will gladly discuss any questions you have concerning this matter.

Sincerely,



H. G. Miller, Director  
Division of Reactor Projects

cc:

J. Cook, Manager, Clinton Power Station

F. Spangenberg, III, Manager -  
Licensing and Safety

DCD/DCB (RIDS) ←

OC/LFDCB

Resident Inspector, RIII

A. Gody, Jr., NRR, PM

J. McCaffrey, Chief, Public  
Utilities Division

Patricia O'Brien, Governor's  
Office of Consumer Services

S. Zabel, Esquire, Schiff, Hardin,  
& Waite

L. Larson, Project Manager,  
General Electric Company

Chairman, DeWitt County Board

Illinois Department of  
Nuclear Safety

Robert Newmann, Office of Public  
Counsel, State of Illinois Center

Perry SRI