



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

FEB 6 1991

DCP/DCB  
(RIDS)

Docket No. 50-295  
Docket No. 50-304

Commonwealth Edison Company  
ATTN: Mr. Cordell Reed  
Senior Vice President  
Opus West III  
1400 Opus Place - Suite 300  
Downers Grove, IL 60515

Gentlemen:

This refers to the routine safety inspection conducted by J. D. Smith, R. J. Leemon, and A. M. Bongiovanni of this office from December 9, 1990 through January 14, 1991 of activities at the Zion Nuclear Generating Station, authorized by License Numbers DPR-39 and DPR-48, and to the discussion of our findings with Mr. T. Joyce at the conclusion of the inspection.

The enclosed copy of our inspection report identifies areas examined during the inspection. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of a selective examination of procedures and representative records, observations, and interviews with personnel.

During this inspection, certain of your activities appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements; however, the licensee-identified violation is not being cited because the criteria specified in 10 CFR Part 2, Appendix C, Section V.G.1 of the Enforcement Policy were satisfied.

While we have noted improvements in control room staff performance which may be attributable, in part, to the control room reorganization, we are concerned by the continuing lack of control room visibility and oversight by senior operations management. A recent example of this was observed during the Safety Injection pump surveillance failure event of January 4, 1991, and is discussed in this report. We highlight this and encourage your attention because we view an active senior management as essential in communicating expectations to the line organization.

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

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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,

  
William L. Forney, Deputy Director  
Division of Reactor Projects

Enclosure: Inspection Reports  
No. 50-295/90033(DRP);  
No. 50-304/90033(DRP)

Distribution

cc w/enclosure:

M. J. Wallace, Vice President,  
PWR Operations  
T. Kovach, Nuclear Licensing  
Manager  
T. Joyce, Station Manager  
Chandu Patel, Project Manager, NRR  
W. L. Axelson, RIII  
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Mayor, City of Zion