

JAN 31 1992

Docket No. 50-456
Docket No. 50-457

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

Dear Mr. Reed:

SUBJECT: INSPECTION REPORTS NO. 50-456/91023;
NO. 50-457/91021

This refers to the routine safety inspection conducted by Ms. V. P. Loughheed of this office on September 19 through December 17, 1991. During this inspection, we evaluated activities at your Braidwood Nuclear Power Station, Units 1, and 2, as authorized by NRC Operating Licenses No. NPF-72 and No. NPF-77. We discussed our findings and conclusions with Mr. D. O'Brien, and others of your staff, at the conclusion of the inspection on November 22, 1991. Additionally, a meeting was held on December 17, 1991, to discuss the Unit 1 test results. After the information presented in the December 17th meeting had been reviewed a final exit was held via telephone on January 27, 1992.

Areas examined during the inspection are identified in the report. This inspection covered performance of the Unit 2 containment integrated leak rate test and the review of the integrated leak rate test performed on Unit 1 in February 1991. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observation of activities in progress.

Although the Unit 2 integrated leak rate test failed in the as-found condition, your actions in identifying, quantifying, and isolating the leakage through steam line B were excellent. Notwithstanding your good performance on Unit 2, we were concerned, as discussed with your staff on September 25, and December 17, 1991, with the conclusion on the Unit 1 test that all the leakage experienced was through the airlock shaft seals. After consideration of the new information on the Unit 1 test presented by your staff during the December 17, 1991 meeting, and rereview of the containment masses and resultant leakage rates, we have determined that we cannot accept the results documented in your 90 day report for the Unit 1 test. Further,

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because of the method employed (i.e., penetration pressurization without quantification) to isolate identified leakage paths during the Unit 1 integrated test, we find that the as found test was a failure.

During this inspection, certain of your activities appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements, as specified in the enclosed Notice. A written response is required.

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

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

Sincerely,
ORIGINAL SIGNED BY HUBERT J. MILLER
H. J. Miller, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

Enclosures:

- 1. Notice of Violation
- 2. Inspection Reports
 - No. 50-456/91023(DRS);
 - No. 50-457/91021(DRS)

cc w/enclosures:

- M. Wallace, Vice President,
PWR Operations
- T. Kovach, Nuclear
Licensing Manager
- A. Checca, Nuclear
Licensing Administrator
- K. Kofron, Station Manager
- A. Haeger, Regulatory
Assurance Supervisor
- DCD/DCB (RIDS)
- OC/LFDCB
- Resident Inspectors, Byron,
Braidwood, Zion
- D. W. Cassel, Jr., Esq.
Richard Hubbard
- J. W. McCaffrey, Chief, Public
Utilities Division
- Licensing Project Mgr., NRR
- Robert Newmann, Office of Public
Counsel, State of Illinois

RIII <i>[Signature]</i>	RIII <i>[Signature]</i>	RIII <i>[Signature]</i>	RIII <i>[Signature]</i>	RIII <i>[Signature]</i>	RIII <i>[Signature]</i>
Lougheed	Phillips	Farber	Wright	Martin	Miller
01/28/92	01/29/92	01/21/92	01/29/92	01/30/92	01/30/92