

October 18, 1995

Mr. John Cook, Vice President
Clinton Power Station
Illinois Power Company
Mail Code V-275
P. O. Box 678
Clinton, IL 61727

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION NO. 50-461/95012 AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Cook:

This refers to the inspection conducted on August 8 through September 25, 1995, at the Clinton Facility. The purpose of the inspection was to determine whether activities authorized by the license were conducted safely and in accordance with NRC requirements. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report.

Areas examined during the inspection are identified in the report. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of a selective examination of procedures and representative records, observations of activities in progress, and interviews with personnel.

Overall, your performance was good during the inspection period; however, some weaknesses were identified due to poor communications. Improvements in plant material condition were recognized due to your increased effort in resolving previously identified problems. A new program was implemented to identify material condition problems which could lead to operator workarounds. This appeared to be a positive effort, although the program effectiveness will be evaluated in future inspections.

Based on the results of this inspection, the NRC has determined that a violation of NRC requirements occurred. This violation is cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice) and the circumstances surrounding it are described in detail in the subject inspection report. The violation is of concern because a personnel error resulted in an inadvertent mode change during your recent forced outage. Various personnel and technical specification implementation errors were documented in previous inspection reports. We acknowledge that your management team was aware of an increase in these types of errors following refueling outage-5 (RF-5) and took aggressive action to address this concern; however, we urge you to continue your efforts in this area.

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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. Your response may reference or include previous docketed correspondence if the correspondence adequately addresses the required response. 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, the enclosures, and your response to this letter will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room. To the extent possible your response should not include personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be placed in the PDR without redaction.

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*, Pub. L. No. 96-511.

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

Sincerely,

/s/Brent Clayton, Chief
Brent Clayton, Chief
Reactor Projects Branch 5

Docket No. 50-461
License No. NPF-62

Enclosure:

1. Notice of Violation
2. Inspection Report
No. 50-461/95012(DRP)

cc w/encl: R. Morgenstern, Plant Manager
Clinton Power Station
R. Phares, Director - Licensing
Nathan Schloss, Economist
Office of the Attorney General
K. K. Berry, Licensing Services Manager
General Electric Company
Chairman, DeWitt County Board
State Liaison Officer
Chairman, Illinois Commerce Commission

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