



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

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NOV 21 1989

Docket No. 50-461

Illinois Power Company
 ATTN: Mr. D. P. Hall
 Senior Vice President
 Clinton Power Station
 Mail Code V-275
 Post Office Box 678
 Clinton, IL 61727

Gentlemen:

This refers to the routine safety inspection conducted by Messrs. P. G. Brochman and S. P. Ray of this office from October 7 through 31, 1989, of activities at Clinton Power Station, authorized by NRC Operating License No. NPF-62, and to the discussion of our findings with Mr. J. Cook and others of your staff 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, as specified in the enclosed Notice. A written response is required.

As part of this inspection, we reviewed the historical record for the last 14 months to evaluate the effectiveness of your Quality Assurance (QA) program. Our review indicates a significant problem with your ability to prevent recurrence of conditions adverse to quality. The examples of inadequate corrective actions detailed in Paragraph 8 of this report, were previously treated as individual problems. However, when viewed collectively, they are indicative of a systemic weakness in the corrective action portion of your QA program. This is of significant concern to the NRC. Although your self-assessment programs are effective in the initial identification of problems, we believe that your identification, implementation, and verification of the efficacy of corrective actions appears to be minimally effective. From these examples it is also clear that this problem is not confined to a particular functional area at Clinton Power Station. The violation identified in this report is considered a further example. Consequently, your response to the violation should address the broader issue on a programmatic basis. Should additional violations occur in this area, the NRC may consider escalated enforcement action.

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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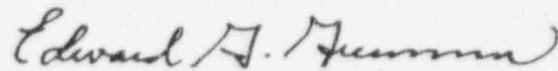
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The responses directed by this letter and the accompanying Notice are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, PL 96-511.

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

Sincerely,



Edward G. Greenman, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Violation
2. Inspection Report
No. 50-461/89032(DRP)

cc w/enclosure:

- J. S. Perry, Assistant
Vice President
- F. A. Spangenberg,, Manager
Licensing and Safety Department
DCD/DCB (RIDS)
Licensing Fee Management Branch
Resident Inspector, RIII
- J. W. McCaffrey, Chief, Public
Utilities Division
- H. S. Taylor, Quality Assurance
Division, Sargent & Lundy
Engineers
- David Rosenblatt, Governor's
Office of Consumer Services
- Sheldon Zabel, Esquire,
Schiff, Hardin, & Waite
- L. Larson, Project Manager,
General Electric Company
Chairman of DeWitt County
Illinois Department of
Nuclear Safety
- D. Schopfer, Project Manager,
Sargent & Lundy Engineers