



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION III
801 WARRENVILLE ROAD
LISLE, ILLINOIS 60532-4351

November 8, 1995

"Public"

Mr. K. Kaup
Site Vice President
Braidwood Station
Commonwealth Edison Company
RR #1, Box 84
Braceville, IL 60407

Dear Mr. Kaup:

This refers to the inspection conducted by Messrs. S. Ray, E. R. Duncan, M. A. Kunowski, J. House, K. Andre, R. Glinski, J. Belanger, and J. Cameron of this office and J. Roman of the Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety on August 22 through September 30, 1995. The inspection included a review of activities authorized for your Braidwood facility. 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 selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observation of activities in progress.

Based on the results of this inspection, certain of your activities appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements, as specified in the enclosed Notice of Violation. The violation is of particular concern because your corrective actions for a previous failure to meet technical specification action requirements for a failed radiation monitor were not effective to prevent recurrence.

In addition, we are concerned that operators failed to show conservatism when they decided to conduct a plant cooldown without knowing the reactivity shutdown margin of the reactor and with one of two source range monitors inoperable.

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. 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.

Also, during this inspection, additional activities appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements. However, as described in the enclosed inspection report, you identified these violations. These violations will not be subject to enforcement action because your efforts in identifying and

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correcting these violations meet the criteria specified in Section IV of the Enforcement Policy.

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.

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,



Martin J. Farber, Acting Chief
Reactor Projects Branch 4

Docket No. 50-456
Docket No. 50-457
License Nos. NPF-72; NPF-77

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Violation
2. Inspection Report
 No. 50-456/95013(DRP);
 No. 50-457/95013(DRP)

cc w/encl: J. C. Brons, Vice President,
 Nuclear Support
 T. Tulon, Station Manager
 K. Bartes, Regulatory
 Assurance Supervisor
 D. Farrar, Nuclear Regulatory
 Services Manager
 Richard Hubbard
 Nathan Schloss, Economist
 Office of the Attorney General
 State Liaison Officer
 Chairman, Illinois Commerce
 Commission

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(See attached continued distribution

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