



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

*DCB/DCB*

SEP 28 1992

Docket No. 50-461

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

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF VIOLATION AND NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-461/92016(DRP)

Dear Mr. Perry:

This refers to the inspection conducted by Messrs. P. G. Brochman, F. L. Brush, and E. R. Duncan of this office on July 28 through September 8, 1992. The inspection included a review of authorized activities for your Clinton Power Station 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 a selective examination of procedures and representative records, observations of activities in progress, and interviews with personnel.

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 (Notice). The violation is of concern because your maintenance staff failed to evaluate the impact of the failure of a balance-of-plant electrical relay on identical safety-related relays on the emergency diesel generators (DG) when the cause of the failure had clear generic implications. The poor questioning attitude exhibited by your maintenance staff and the initially erroneous analysis of the safety impact of the relay failure, including the poor understanding of the diesel generator protective trip system, and the impact on the ability of the DG to mitigate a design basis accident, are similar to concerns we expressed in our most recent SALP report.

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.

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Illinois Power Company

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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,

  
L. Robert Grege, Chief  
Reactor Projects Branch 3

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Violation
2. Inspection Report  
No. 50-461/92016(DRP)

cc w/enclosure:

J. Cook, Vice President and Manager of  
Clinton Power Station  
F. Spangenberg, III, Manager - Licensing  
and Safety  
DCD/DCB (RIDS)  
OC/LFDCB  
Clinton SRI  
LPM NRR  
J. McCaffrey, Chief, Public Utilities  
Division  
Patricia O'Brien, Governor's Office of  
Consumer Services  
K. K. Berry, Licensing Services Manager  
General Electric Company  
S. Zabel, Esquire, Schiff, Hardin,  
& Waite  
Chairman, DeWitt County Board  
Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety  
Perry SRI  
Thomas W. Ortziger, State Liaison Officer  
Robert Newmann, Office of Public Counsel  
State of Illinois Center  
T. Kobetz, RIII (TI)