

DEC 28 1992

Docket No. 50-456

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Commonwealth Edison Company
ATTN: Mr. L. O. DelGeorge
Vice President, Nuclear Oversight
and Regulatory Services
Executive Towers West III
1400 Opus Place, Suite 300
Downers Grove, IL 60515

Dear Mr. DelGeorge:

This refers to the NRC's Systematic Assessment of Licensee Performance (SALP) 11 Report for the Braidwood Nuclear Plant, our meeting of December 18, 1992, which discussed the contents of the report, and your written comments dated December 18, 1992, relative to the report.

At the meeting at the Braidwood facility on December 18, 1992, Mr. J. J. O'Connor questioned the Category 2 rating assigned to the radiological controls area in the Initial SALP 11 Report. He stated that performance in this area during the latter months of the assessment period warranted a Category 2 Improving. In response, I have re-evaluated this area with my staff and concluded that the Category 2 rating is appropriate for the reasons discussed below.

The generally good performance in radiological controls during the recent refueling outage was offset by the impact of contaminated areas on operator rounds and by worker contamination control practices. These challenges persisted throughout the assessment period. Because of the number and locations of contaminated areas, including emergency core cooling system rooms, operators were required to don and remove protective clothing numerous times to perform rounds. This was a contributing factor to a November 4, 1991, spill of contaminated water where a worker did not enter a contaminated area to independently verify an out-of-service (OOS). The OOS and its verification were incorrectly performed and resulted in the spill. It also could have resulted in serious personal injury. Had this radiological impediment been resolved, the OOS verification may have been performed satisfactorily and identified that the OOS was incorrect.

Early in the assessment period, contamination control practices of workers dressed in protective clothing were weak. We believe that it was fortuitous that these practices did not result in increased personnel contaminations. Late in the assessment period and early in the current SALP period, poor contamination control practices were again observed; two of these involved radiation protection personnel. These poor practices were the basis for a Notice of Violation issued in a recent resident inspector report (Report No. 50-456/92023; 50-457/92023).

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Based on our discussions during the meeting and our review and evaluation of your letter of response, no changes to the initial SALP Report are necessary. As such, the initial SALP Report dated November 25, 1992 is considered to be the final SALP Report.

In accordance with Section 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, a copy of this letter with the referenced enclosures, will be placed in the NRC's Public Document Room.

No reply to this letter is required; however, should you have questions regarding the Final SALP Report, please let us know and we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,

A. Bert Davis
Regional Administrator

Enclosures:

1. Final SALP II Report
No. 50-456/92001; 50-457/92001
(Meeting Summary)
2. Licensee Response Letter,
dated December 18, 1992

See Attached Distribution

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cc w/enclosure:

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Licensing Administrator
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