



Illinois Power Company
Clinton Power Station
P.O. Box 678
Clinton, IL 61727
Tel 217 935-6220
Fax 217 935-4632

Wayne D. Romberg
Assistant Vice President - Nuclear

U-602790
4F.190
July 18, 1997

Docket No. 50-461

Mr. A. Bill Beach
Regional Administrator
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region III
801 Warrenville Road
Lisle, Illinois 60532-4351

Subject: Conclusion of Issues Concerning Indicating Light Sockets and
Inappropriate Use of Solder Flux at Clinton Power Station

Dear Mr. Beach:

Illinois Power (IP) is committed to provide a final status of our efforts at Clinton Power Station (CPS) to resolve the issues concerning indicating light sockets and inappropriate solder flux. This letter will provide the conclusion to IP's original letter dated June 10, 1997 (U-602759), and subsequent letters dated June 19, 1997 (U-602763), June 20, 1997 (U-602766), and July 2, 1997 (U-602770) regarding this subject.

The rework of over 590 indicating light sockets in the main control room is complete. The causes of this event were a programmatic breakdown in the control of consumable material (solder flux) on plant components and poor workmanship. As noted in my letter dated July 2, 1997, the review of safety and non safety related work documents to determine where the subject flux may have been used was completed. The components identified during this review have been reworked.

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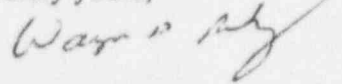
The investigation into the potential inappropriate use of other types of solder flux on other plant components was completed. There were two occurrences identified in which a questionable soldering flux was used. The Intermediate Range Monitor cable connections and the Source Range Monitor cable connections, at their respective Containment building penetration, were identified as having a questionable soldering flux used in previous rework activities. This other flux was applied several years ago and there has been no detrimental effects on the operation of these instruments. However, to ensure there has been no degradation due to this flux, these cable connections will be investigated and repaired, if necessary, before December 31, 1997.

During detailed examination of the removed sockets at an independent testing lab, instances of poor workmanship during the initial replacement activity were discovered. The specific problem identified was an inadequate quantity of solder on six of the socket terminations. Further investigation into the workmanship issue identified the noted workmanship problem was limited to two individuals. A detailed review and assessment of current (RF-6) and past performance by these individuals identified no other concerns.

In the previous IP letter dated June 19, 1997, we stated that the Procurement Engineering department was performing an audit of the material classifications of consumable materials. We must clarify that the Procurement Engineering team is performing an investigation, not an audit, into several different varieties of soldering flux in the stores system. The corrective action determined in response to the investigation is that a clarifying statement should be added to the description of these items in the Material Management Information System (MMIS) and the Power Plant Maintenance Planning System (PPMPS). That letter also stated that the Quality Assurance (QA) department was performing an audit on the use of consumable materials when in reality the QA department was performing an assessment on the investigation of the indicating light sockets and the use of soldering flux at CPS.

IP is confident that all steps have been taken to resolve this condition. If you have any further questions, please contact me directly.

Sincerely yours,



Wayne D. Romberg
Assistant Vice President

BGS/krk

cc: Document Control Desk
NRC Clinton Licensing Project Manager
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