

SEP 09 1988

Docket No. 50-373

Docket No. 50-374

Commonwealth Edison Company
ATTN: Mr. Cordell Reed
Senior Vice President
Post Office Box 767
Chicago, IL 60690

Gentlemen:

This letter forwards the results and conclusions of the PRA inspection of the LaSalle County Station conducted between June 27 and July 22, 1988. The purpose of this inspection was to assess the adequacy of activities affecting items identified by the LaSalle Unit 2, Probabilistic Risk Assessment (PRA) as contributing most to plant risk. While this PRA is not complete, no significant change in the dominant contributors to plant risk is anticipated.

Two violations were identified during this inspection as described in the enclosed Notice. A written response is required. One of these was of special concern since it involved the failure to take prompt action to correct a potential common mode failure of the station emergency diesel generator output breaker closing circuits. The station had been informed in 1984 by your Station Nuclear Engineering Department of industry problems with certain relays used in the closing circuits of emergency diesel generators at LaSalle. The station failed to take any corrective action until three failures of these relays occurred at LaSalle in 1987. Corrective action is still not complete. We request that you take prompt action in determining if the station staff is adequately trained to recognize and respond to significant safety issues. Your response should describe those actions you plan to take to ensure that significant safety issues are promptly addressed and corrective action completed within a responsible period of time.

Another safety concern identified during the inspection was the unreliability of the air compressors at the station. Specifically, the instrument air, drywell pneumatic, and diesel generator air start system compressors all exhibited poor reliability. This concern was underscored subsequent to the inspection by problems with the Unit 2 drywell pneumatic system on August 31, 1988 leading to a plant shutdown. All of these systems are identified by the PRA as dominant contributors to plant risk. Your response should address your plans for increasing the reliability of these systems.

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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, PL 96-511.

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

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY HUBERT J. MILLER

Hubert J. Miller, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

Enclosures:

- 1. Notice of Violation
- 2. Inspection Reports
 - No. 50-373/88016(DRS);
 - No. 50-374/88015(DRS)

cc w/enclosures:

- H. Bliss, Nuclear
Licensing Manager
- G. J. Diederich, Station
Manager
- DCD/DCB (RIDS)
Licensing Fee Management Branch
- Resident Inspector, RIII
Richard Hubbard
- J. W. McCaffrey, Chief, Public
Utilities Division
- David Rosenblatt, Governor's
Office of Consumer Services

RIII
Hasse/lms
9/16/88
Bjorgen/7

RIII
Bongiovanni
9/16/88
Phillips
9/22/88

RIII
Maura
9/8/88

RIII
Roscherke
Wright
9/8/88

RIII
Vandel
9/19/88
Miller
9/19/88

RIII
Hills
9/17