MAY 1 9 1988

Docket No. 50-461

Illinois Power Company ATTN: Mr. W. C. Gerstner Executive Vice President 500 South 27th Street Decatur, IL 62525

Gentlemen:

This refers to the special, unannounced team inspection conducted by Ms. Peggy R. Rescheske and others of this office on March 21 through April 15, 1988, of activities at the Clinton Power Station authorized by NRC Operating License No. NPF-62. The inspection focused on the ability of your quality verification (QV) organizations to identify, solve, and prevent significant technical deficiencies in functional areas encompassing plant operations. The inspection also assessed line management's effectiveness in dealing with identified deficiencies promptly and completely. At the conclusion of the inspection, our findings were discussed with you and members of your staff. Our findings, in general, were positive.

The enclosed copy of our inspection report identifies the areas, primarily operations and C&I, examined during the inspection. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of a selective examination of documents, observations, and interviews with personnel.

No violations of NRC requirements were identified during the course of this inspection.

The results of the inspection indicate that your QV organizations are actively involved and generally effective in assuring the quality of activities in at least the areas which were inspected. In particular, the team noted that the Quality Assurance Department is evolving into an effective performance oriented organization, and is assertive in pursuing and trending significant issues. Notwithstanding the positive attributes of the QA Department, the team was concerned with the quality of activities being performed by the Operations Department. Through observations of surveillance testing in the control room and review of available documentation of events, weaknesses were identified in scheduling and planning, and in the performance of the testing. Based on these team observations, the circumstances surrounding the testing, and discussions with your staff, we do not believe that the identified weaknesses were isolated to the specific surveillance testing witnessed. We encourage you to further review the events resulting in our conclusions to determine if a problem does exist. To that end, we recommend that management attention and involvement in operations activities be increased. In addition, we encourage even more Quality Assurance visibility in the control room.

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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the Commission's regulations, a copy of this letter and the enclosed inspection report will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

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

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY MUDERT J. MILLER

Hubert J. Miller, Director Division of Reactor Safety

Enclosure: Inspection Report No. 50-461/88007(DRS)

cc w/enclosure: D. F. Hall, Vice President R. D. Freeman, Manager, Nuclear Station Engineering Department DCD/DCB (RIDS) Licensing Fee Management Branch Resident Inspector, RIII Richard Hubbard J. W. McCaffrey, Chief, Public Utilities Division H. S. Taylor, Quality Assurance Division, Sargent & Lundy Engineers David Rosenblatt, Governor's Office of Consumer Services Sheldon Zabel, Esquire, Schiff, Hardin, & Waite L. Larson, Project Manager, General Electric Company Chairman of DeWitt County Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety D. Schopfer, Project Manager, Sargent & Lundy Engineers

F. Hawkins, LQAB, NRR

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