



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION III
801 WARRENVILLE ROAD
LISLE, ILLINOIS 60532-4351

November 7, 1998

Mr. Oliver D. Kingsley
President, Nuclear Generation Group
Commonwealth Edison Company
ATTN: Regulatory Services
Executive Towers West III
1400 Opus Place, Suite 500
Downers Grove, IL 60515

SUBJECT: LASALLE INSPECTION REPORT 50-373/98021(DRP); 50-374/98021(DRP)

Dear Mr. Kingsley:

This refers to the inspection conducted September 1 through October 9, 1998, at the LaSalle Nuclear Power Station. The purpose of the inspection was to determine whether activities authorized by the license were conducted safely and in accordance with NRC requirements. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report.

Overall, performance at the LaSalle Station was acceptable. In particular, inspectors observed operators attentive to the main control room panels, knowledgeable of system configurations, and aware of plant activities. Operators also responded appropriately to plant events. However, several minor human performance errors occurred by operators and maintenance personnel as a result of inattention to detail and ineffective communication. For example, operator errors while removing equipment from service resulted in a failure to sample for radioactivity before draining a primary containment chiller to a non-contaminated fire sump, exposure of a reactor water cleanup pump's motor internals to excessive temperature, and placement of the incorrect out-of-service cards on reactor building closed cooling water pump motor switches. Also, maintenance personnel did not adequately protect the fuel pool cooling and demineralizer system from the introduction of foreign material during a maintenance activity. These and other examples in the enclosed report indicate that continued management attention is warranted in the area of human performance.

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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Geoffrey E. Grant, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos.: 50-373; 50-374
License Nos.: NPF-11; NPF-18

Enclosure: Inspection Report 50-373/98021(DRP);
50-374/98021(DRP)

cc w/encl: D. Helwig, Senior Vice President
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