

December 24, 1997

Mr. K. Graesser
Site Vice President
Byron Station
Commonwealth Edison Company
4450 N. German Church Road
Byron, IL 61010

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-454/97022(DRP); 50-455/97022(DRP)
AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Graesser:

On December 1, 1997, the NRC completed an inspection at your Byron 1 and 2 reactor facilities. The enclosed report presents the inspection results.

Control room operations continue to be very good. Observations included consistent three-way communications between operators and formal command and control by the unit supervisor and shift manager. Operators responded appropriately to each annunciator alarm. The operators minimized the number of personnel in the control room, and the work execution center resulted in a significant reduction in the amount of distractions in the main control room.

We are concerned that your corrective action program failed to adequately resolve identified issues and take appropriate corrective action. Several issues were identified and documented by your staff related to the 2B chemical and volume control (CV) pump work. However, our review of your corrective actions showed that very little action had been taken. The scope of the root cause that was done was not adequate. This resulted in a violation for an inadequate procedure.

A second violation was issued for a failure to follow your foreign material exclusion (FME) procedure. We identified two uncovered openings in the containment floor drain sump, which was identified as an FME area, with construction debris in the area and immediately outside the area. Due to the construction activities during the steam generator replacement and refueling outage, we are concerned that proper FME controls must be in place and applied appropriately. Foreign material intrusion can cause significant equipment reliability problems and potentially lead to more serious problems.

The violations discussed above are cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation. The circumstances surrounding the violations are described in detail in the enclosed report. Please note that you are enquired to respond to the violations and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. The NRC will use your response, in part, to determine whether further enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

060002
9802060054 971224
PDR ADOCK 05000454
G PDR



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

Sincerely,

/s/ G. E. Grant

Geoffrey E. Grant, Director,
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 50-454; 50-455
License Nos. NPF-37; NPF-66

Enclosures: 1. Notice of Violation
2. Inspection Report
No. 50-454/97022(DRP);
50-455/97022(DRP)

cc w/encs: O. Kingsley, Nuclear Generation Group
President and Chief Nuclear Officer
M. Wallace, Senior Vice
President, Corporate Services
H. G. Stanley, Vice President
PWR Operations
Liaison Officer, NOC-BOD
D. A. Sager, Vice President,
Generation Support
D. Farrar, Nuclear Regulatory
Services Manager
I. Johnson, Licensing
Operations Manager
Document Control Desk-Licensing
K. Kofron, Station Manager
D. Brindle, Regulatory Assurance
Supervisor
Richard Hubbard
Nathan Schloss, Economist
Office of the Attorney General
State Liaison Officer
State Liaison Officer, Wisconsin
Chairman, Illinois Commerce
Commission

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

Sincerely,

Geoffrey E. Grant, Director,
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 50-454; 50-455
License Nos. NPF-37; NPF-66

Enclosures: 1. Notice of Violation
2. Inspection Report
No. 50-454/97022(DRP);
50-455/97022(DRP)

cc w/encs: O. Kingsley, Nuclear Generation Group
President and Chief Nuclear Officer
M. Wallace, Senior Vice
President, Corporate Services
H. G. Stanley, Vice President
PWR Operations
Liaison Officer, NOC-BOD
D. A. Sager, Vice President,
Generation Support
D. Farrar, Nuclear Regulatory
Services Manager
I. Johnson, Licensing
Operations Manager
Document Control Desk-Licensing
K. Kofron, Station Manager
D. Brindle, Regulatory Assurance
Supervisor
Richard Hubbard
Nathan Schloss, Economist
Office of the Attorney General
State Liaison Officer
State Liaison Officer, Wisconsin
Chairman, Illinois Commerce
Commission

DOCUMENT NAME: G:\BYRO\BYR97022.DRP

To receive a copy of this document, indicate in the box "C" = Copy without attachment/enclosure "E" = Copy with attachment/enclosure
"N" = No copy

OFFICE	RIII	RIII	RIII	RIII			
NAME	Tongue/et	Shear Section R1	Jordan	Grant			
DATE	02/ /98	02/ /98	02/ /98	02/ /98			

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Distribution:

Docket File w/encs
PUBLIC IE-01 w/encs
A. Beach w/encs
Deputy RA w/encs
RIII Enf. Coord. w/encs
SRI Byron w/encs
Project Mgr., NRR w/encs

DRP w/encs
TSS w/encs
DRS (2) w/encs
RIII PRR w/encs
RAC1 (E-Mail)
CAA1 (E-Mail)
DOCDESK (E-Mail)