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PDR

Mr. T. Tulon
Site Vice President
Braidwood Station
Commonwealth Edison Company
RR #1, Box 84
Braidwood, IL 60407

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-456/97019(DRP); 50-457/97019(DRP) AND
NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Tulon:

On December 15, 1997, the NRC completed an inspection at your Braidwood Units 1 and 2 reactor facilities. The enclosed report presents the results of that inspection. During the 6-week period covered by this inspection, your conduct of activities was generally characterized by safety-conscious operations, sound engineering and maintenance practices, and careful radiological work controls. Operating crews performing the startup from the Unit 2 refueling outage demonstrated excellent human performance when challenged by equipment failures. Additionally, inspectors reviewed three safety-related modifications that were installed during the Unit 2 refueling outage and found that the modifications were processed in accordance with the appropriate procedures, were properly documented, and received proper safety evaluations. However, we are concerned about the failure of station personnel to identify loose materials in the Unit 2 containment that resulted in a violation. The inspectors found two examples where the acceptance criteria of the surveillance test procedure were not met following notification by station personnel that the containment loose debris inspection was complete.

The violation is cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice) and the circumstances surrounding the violation are described in detail in the enclosed report. Please note that you are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. Your response should not only detail the actions to be taken for the specific issues identified, but should also be broadly focused on what actions you plan or have taken to ensure that your corrective actions process is effective. The NRC will use your response, in part, to determine whether further enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

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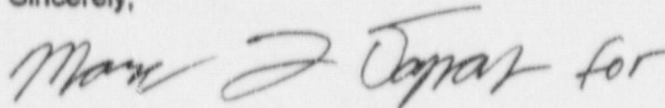
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T. Tulon

-2-

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

Sincerely,



Geoffrey E. Grant, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos: 50-456, 50-457
License Nos: NPF-72, NPF-77

Enclosures: 1. Notice of Violation
2. Inspection Report
No. 50-456/97019(DRP);
50-457/97019(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
Braidwood Station Manager
T. Simpkin, Regulatory
Assurance Supervisor
Richard Hubbard
Nathan Schloss, Economist
Office of the Attorney General
State Liaison Officer
Chairman, Illinois Commerce
Commission

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Sincerely,

/s/ Marc L. Dapas for

Geoffrey E. Grant, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

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- T. Simpkin, Regulatory
Assurance Supervisor
- Richard Hubbard
- Nathan Schloss, Economist
Office of the Attorney General
- State Liaison Officer
- Chairman, Illinois Commerce
Commission

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DATE	12/23/97	12/23/97	12/23/97	12/23/97	12/11/97	<i>12/11/97</i>

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