

Mr. Joseph V. Sipek
Director - Licensing
Clinton Power Station
P.O. Box 678
Mail Code V920
Clinton, IL 61727

January 26, 1999

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RELATED TO THE GL 96-05
PROGRAM FOR THE CLINTON POWER STATION, UNIT 1 (TAC NO. M97032)

Dear Mr. Sipek:

The NRC staff issued Generic Letter (GL) 96-05, "Periodic Verification of Design-Basis Capability of Safety-Related Motor-Operated Valves," by letter dated September 18, 1996. The GL requested licensees to have a program to verify on a periodic basis that safety-related motor-operated valves (MOV) continue to be capable of performing their safety functions within the current licensing basis of the facility.

On July 14, 1998, you submitted an updated response to GL 96-05 indicating your intent to implement the provisions of the Joint Owners Group (JOG) Program on MOV Periodic Verification. The NRC staff has encouraged licensees to participate in the industry-wide JOG program to provide a benefit in reactor safety by sharing expertise and information on MOV performance and to increase the efficiency of GL 96-05 activities at nuclear plants. Licensee participation in the JOG program also minimizes the amount of information necessary for the staff to review, when reviewing each licensee's response to GL 96-05. As a result, the NRC staff requires only limited information to complete its GL 96-05 review for the Clinton Power Station.

Attached is a request for additional information (RAI) regarding the GL 96-05 program at Clinton. Please provide the requested information within 60 days of your receipt of this letter.

Contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:
Jon B. Hopkins, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate III-3
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-461

Enclosure: RAI

cc w/encl: See next page

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Enclosed is a request for additional information (RAI) regarding the GL 96-05 program at Clinton. Please provide the requested information within 60 days of your receipt of this letter.

Contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Jon B. Hopkins", is written over the typed name.

Jon B. Hopkins, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate III-2
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-461

Enclosure: RAI

cc w/encl: See next page

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR RESOLUTION OF

GL 96-05 ISSUES AT THE CLINTON POWER STATION

(TAC NO. M97032)

1. In NRC Inspection Report No. 50-461/96002, the NRC staff closed its review of the motor-operated valve (MOV) program implemented at Clinton Power Station (Clinton) in response to Generic Letter (GL) 89-10, "Safety-Related Motor-Operated Valve Testing and Surveillance." In the inspection report, the NRC staff discussed certain aspects of Illinois Power's (IP) MOV program to be addressed over the long term. For example, the inspectors noted that (1) 14 MOVs with interim operability justifications were to have margin improvements implemented by the Fall 1996 refueling outage; (2) IP agreed to review test data acquired by its periodic verification and reevaluate its use of closing stem friction coefficients when evaluating open direction thrust margins; (3) IP agreed to programmatically account for load sensitive behavior in the open direction; and (4) testing of 14 butterfly valves were scheduled for the next three refueling outages. Describe the actions taken to address the specific long-term aspects of the MOV program at Clinton noted in the NRC inspection report.
2. In a letter dated July 14, 1998, IP updated its commitment to implement the Joint Owners Group (JOG) Program on MOV Periodic Verification in response to GL 96-05. The JOG program specifies that the methodology and discrimination criteria for ranking MOVs according to their safety significance are the responsibility of each participating licensee. In a previous letter dated March 14, 1997, IP had generally described the risk ranking of MOVs at Clinton for application of the interim MOV static diagnostic test program. As Clinton is a boiling water reactor (BWR) nuclear plant, does IP apply the Boiling Water Reactor Owners' Group (BWROG) methodology for ranking MOVs based on their safety significance as described in BWROG Topical Report NEDC 32264 and the NRC safety evaluation dated February 27, 1996? If not, describe the methodologies used for risk ranking MOVs at Clinton in more detail, including the preparation of sample lists of high-risk MOVs from other BWR plants and the use of expert panel review of the MOVs considered to be non-safety significant by the Clinton probabilistic risk assessment.
3. The JOG program focuses on the potential age-related increase in the thrust or torque required to operate valves under their design-basis conditions. In the NRC safety evaluation dated October 30, 1997, on the JOG program, the NRC staff specified that licensees are responsible for addressing the thrust or torque delivered by the MOV motor actuator and its potential degradation. Describe the plan at Clinton for ensuring adequate ac and dc MOV motor actuator output capability, including consideration of recent guidance in Limitorque Technical Update 98-01 and its Supplement 1.

Enclosure

Joseph V. Sipek
Illinois Power Company

Clinton Power Station, Unit 1

cc:

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