

DCO

February 27, 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: NRC INSPECTION REPORTS 50-373/97017(OL); 50-374/97017(OL)
LICENSED OPERATOR REQUALIFICATION PROGRAM EVALUATION

Dear Mr. Kingsley:

On February 3, 1998, the NRC completed an inspection at your LaSalle County Generating Station. The purpose of this inspection was to review the licensed operator requalification program. The inspection included observation of certified evaluators and licensed operators during administration of the annual operating requalification examination and observation of the conduct of control room activities the week of October 20, 1997. The annual written requalification examination was delayed a number of times until January 1998. An NRC inspector observed administration of the annual written requalification examination January 21 - 22, 1998. Additionally, interviews were conducted with members of the operations and training staffs. The enclosed report presents the results of the inspection.

The inspectors concluded that your control room operators demonstrated an appropriate level of awareness to ensure safe and effective control of the plant and associated systems.

The inspectors concluded the licensed reactor operator and senior reactor operator requalification programs were implemented in accordance with 10 CFR Part 55 requirements. Examination material and operator evaluations prepared and performed by your training staff were, in general, considered satisfactory.

No violations of NRC requirements were identified; however, several concerns in your licensed operator requalification training program were identified. These concerns are described within the body of the report. In particular, the issues pertaining to not performing job performance measures during requalification training, and the poor validation and coordination of simulator job performance measures have the potential to be detrimental to effective licensed operator evaluation.

Furthermore, during the requalification examination on dynamic simulator scenarios, the inspectors concluded that some operators displayed performance weaknesses. The inspectors determined that command and control, use and familiarity of emergency operating procedures, classification of emergencies, and three way communications were, at times, weak and needed improvement.

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The inspectors acknowledged that your staff was fairly new and that some immediate corrective actions were made by the end of the inspection period. However, we encourage your continued efforts to enhance the training program and request that appropriate attention be given to resolving these issues in a timely manner.

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 (PDR).

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

Sincerely,

Original Signed by Geoffrey E. Grant

Geoffrey E. Grant, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

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

Enclosure: Inspection Reports 50-373/97017(OL); 50-374/97017(OL)

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