

MAR 13 1989

Docket No. 50-461

Illinois Power Company
ATTN: Mr. W. C. Gerstner
Executive Vice President
500 South 27th Street
Decatur, IL 62525

Gentlemen:

This refers to the special inspection conducted by Mr. G. Pirtle of this office and Mr. P. Hiland, Senior Resident Inspector, Clinton Power Station, between January 3-20, 1989, of a fitness-for-duty issue involving a senior manager at the Clinton Power Station, and to discussions of our inspection findings with Mr. J. Perry and other members of your staff on January 12 and February 24, 1989.

The enclosed copy of our inspection report identifies areas examined during the inspection. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of a selective examination of procedures and representative records, observations, interviews, and review of your investigation report pertaining to the fitness-for-duty issue.

Your independent investigation of the senior manager's fitness for duty appears to have been adequate in scope and depth. Based on that investigation and our onsite inspection, we conclude that while there is reasonable assurance that the senior manager was fit for duty, the absence of empirical test results prevents an absolute determination of his fitness for duty. We also conclude that the senior manager's actions relating to plant matters were appropriate and that safe operation of the Clinton plant was not adversely affected because of this fitness-for-duty issue.

No violations of NRC requirements were identified during the course of the inspection. While those aspects of your fitness-for-duty program reviewed during this inspection conformed to the broad objectives and expectations of the NRC Policy Statement concerning Fitness-for-Duty of Nuclear Plant Personnel, our review of this issue revealed weaknesses in your fitness-for-duty program as it pertains to a call-in policy, guidance for credibility and documentation of allegations, suspension of unescorted access, and review of work performed for persons with positive empirical test results.

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Details concerning these weaknesses are contained in Section 3.c(5) of the enclosed Inspection Report. These weaknesses warrant review on your part to identify specific actions to further improve your fitness-for-duty program. We request that you inform us, in writing within 30 days of the date of this letter, of the corrective actions you will take for the weaknesses.

The allegation addressed in this report demonstrated that plant employees and supervisors are sensitive to the need for a workplace free of the effects of alcohol and will properly report perceived violations of that requirement, even if it involves senior managers. That represents a strength in your overall program.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the Commission's regulations, a copy of this letter and the enclosed inspection report will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

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

Sincerely,

Original signed by
A. Bert Davis

A. Bert Davis
Regional Administrator

Enclosure: Inspection Report
No. 50-461/89004(DRSS)

cc w/enclosure:

D. P. Hall, Vice President

J. S. Perry, Assistant
Vice President

R. D. Freeman, Manager,
Nuclear Station
Engineering Department
DCD/DCB (RIDS)

Licensing Fee Management Branch
Resident Inspector, RIII
Richard Hubbard

J. W. McCaffrey, Chief, Public
Utilities Division

H. S. Taylor, Quality Assurance
Division, Sargent & Lundy
Engineers

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bcc: OI, Region III