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February 4, 1997

Mr. W. Connell  
Vice President  
Clinton Power Station  
Illinois Power Company  
Mail Code V-275  
P. O. Box 678  
Clinton, IL 61727

SUBJECT: NRC SECURITY INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-461/96016(DRS) AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Connell:

On January 7, 1997, the NRC completed a security inspection of your Clinton Nuclear Power Plant. The enclosed report presents the results of that inspection.

During the inspection period, we determined your security program to be adequate to protect public health and safety. We identified two violations of your security program and procedures and another weakness. These findings demonstrated weakness in procedure adherence. They also indicated some lack of understanding of the purpose and reasons for some requirements as noted in the inspection details. Our identification of these problems was accomplished by direct observation, and comparisons of readily available information, that could have been accomplished by your staff.

These violations are cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice), and the circumstances surrounding the violations 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. The NRC will use your response, in part, to determine whether further enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

Also of concern, were two licensee-identified failures to implement compensatory measures for failed security equipment. Despite the fact that full credit was given for your identification of these violations, it appears that their causes are similar to those violations that were cited and involved failure to follow established procedures. Please address this issue in your response. In addition, the inspector identified a vulnerability in a portion of your vehicle barrier system (VBS). Details of these findings are described in the enclosed report.

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SAFEGUARDS INFORMATION

W. Connell

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February 4, 1997

The material enclosed herewith contains Safeguards Information as defined by 10 CFR 73.21 and its disclosure to unauthorized individuals is prohibited by Section 147 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended. Therefore, the material will not be placed in the Public Document Room.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by James L. Caldwell  
James L. Caldwell, Director  
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No. 50-461

Enclosures: 1. Notice of Violation  
2. Inspection Report  
No. 50-461/96016(DRS)  
(SAFEGUARDS INFORMATION)

cc w/encls: P. Yocum, Plant Manager  
Clinton Power Station  
R. Phares, Manager, Nuclear Assessment  
P. J. Telthorst, Director - Licensing

cc w/encls, w/o  
SAFEGUARDS INFORMATION: Nathan Schloss, Economist,  
Office of the Attorney General  
K. K. Berry, Licensing Services Manager  
General Electric Company  
Chairman, DeWitt County Board  
State Liaison Officer  
Chairman, Illinois Commerce Commission

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SAFEGUARDS INFORMATION

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