

February 1, 1999

Mr. John P. McElwain
Chief Nuclear Officer
Clinton Power Station
Illinois Power Company
Mail Code V-275
P. O. Box 678
Clinton, IL 61727

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-461/98028(DRS)

Dear Mr. McElwain:

On December 18, 1998, the NRC completed a follow-up inspection of your implementation of 10 CFR 50.65, "Requirements for Monitoring the Effectiveness of Maintenance at Nuclear Power Plants," (commonly referred to as the maintenance rule) at the Clinton Power Station. During this inspection, your progress toward resolving NRC Manual Chapter 0350 Case Specific Checklist Items II.4, "Establish and Implement an Effective Risk Assessment Program," and V.3, "Develop Maintenance Rule Program Which Meets NRC Requirements," was reviewed. The enclosed report presents the results of the subject inspection.

Your program at Clinton Power Station for implementing the requirements of the maintenance rule was based on the guidance provided in NUMARC 93-01, "Industry Guideline for Monitoring the Effectiveness of Maintenance at Nuclear Power Plants," dated April 1996, which was endorsed in Regulatory Guide 1.160, "Monitoring the Effectiveness of Maintenance at Nuclear Power Plants," dated March 1997. Although you have established an adequate maintenance rule program, due to your own quality assurance concerns with your ineffective implementation of the maintenance rule program, we concluded your program did not meet all of the requirements of the maintenance rule. The remaining aspect of the maintenance rule program that needs to be addressed to meet the requirements of the maintenance rule is to ensure acceptable program implementation throughout the plant restart and subsequent plant operations. As such, your staff needs to continue to take ownership of their portion of the maintenance rule program to ensure effective implementation.

Based on the results of our inspection from which we concluded that you established an adequate maintenance rule program, Case Specific Checklist Item V.3 was closed. In addition, no violations of NRC requirements were identified. We also concluded that a risk assessment process for evaluating on-line and outage maintenance activities has been developed. However, training of personnel on this process needs to be completed and therefore, Case Specific Checklist Item II.4 will remain open pending completion of the training.

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

Sincerely,

Original /s/ Marc Dapas
Marc Dapas, Deputy Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No.: 50-461
License No.: NPF-62

Enclosure: Inspection Report 50-461/98028(DRS)

cc w/encl: G. Hunger, Station Manager
R. Phares, Manager, Nuclear Safety
and Performance Improvement
J. Sipek, Director - Licensing
M. Aguilar, Assistant Attorney General
G. Stramback, Regulatory Licensing
Services Project Manager
General Electric Company
Chairman, DeWitt County Board
State Liaison Officer
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