

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION III 801 WARRENVILLE ROAD LISLE, ILLINOIS 60532-4351

April 30, 1999

EA 99-108

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: CLINTON INSPECTION REPORT 50-461/99011(DRP) AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. McElwain:

On April 21, 1999, the NRC completed an inspection at the Clinton Power Station. The enclosed report presents the results of that inspection.

During the period covered by this inspection, the inspectors reviewed the activities associated with NRC Manual Chapter 0350 Case Specific Checklist Restart Items II.1, "Establish and Implement Continuing Operator Training Emphasizing Technical Specification Adherence/Knowledge and Recognition of Degraded Conditions," IV.4, "Resolve Degraded Voltage and Electrical Distribution Concerns," and VI.3, "Validate the Adequacy of the Setpoint Program." The inspectors determined that these items were adequately addressed and the NRC Oversight Panel subsequently closed these items.

Based on the results of this inspection, the NRC has determined that a violation of NRC requirements occurred. This violation is cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice) and the circumstances surrounding it are described in detail in the subject inspection report. A violation of 10 CFR 50, Appendix B, Criterion III, was cited in Inspection Report 50-461/97015, in part, for the failure to correctly translate the design basis for the hydrogen mixing compressors into an emergency diesel generator load calculation. The violation in this report is cited consistent with Appendix C of NUREG-1600, Rev. 1, "General Statement of Policy and Procedures for NRC Enforcement Actions." Specifically, your staff failed to correct the referenced violation despite having considered the issue closed in your corrective action system. The erroneous design value being maintained in the design basis calculation constituted a continuing violation of Criterion III.

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.

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Based on the results of this inspection, the NRC also determined that one additional violation of NRC requirements occurred. This violation is being treated as a Non-Cited Violation (NCV), consistent with Appendix C of the Enforcement Policy. The NCV is described in the subject inspection report. If you contest the violation or severity level of the NCV, you should provide a response within 30 days of the date of this inspection report, with the basis for your denial, to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Document Control Desk, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001, with copies to the Regional Administrator, Region III, and the Director, Office of Enforcement, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001.

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

Sincerely,

/s/ M. L. Dapas

Marc L. Dapas, Deputy Director Division of Reactor Projects

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

- Enclosures: 1. Notice of Violation
 - 2. Inspection Report 50-461/99011(DRP)
- cc w/encls:
- 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

Chairman, Illinois Commerce Commission

DOCUMENT NAME: G:\CLIN\CLI99011.DRP

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J. McElwain

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