



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION III  
801 WARRENVILLE ROAD  
LISLE, ILLINOIS 60532-4351

May 14, 1999

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: QUAD CITIES INSPECTION REPORT 50-254/99006(DRP);  
50-265/99006(DRP)

Dear Mr. Kingsley:

This refers to the inspection conducted March 7 through April 20, 1999, at the Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station. The purpose of the inspection was to determine whether activities authorized by the license were conducted safely and in accordance with NRC requirements. The NRC conducted routine resident inspections in this period. Based on the inspectors' findings, overall performance at the Quad Cities Station was safe. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with members of your staff.

During the period, errors by operators and maintenance technicians resulted in a number of conditions of low safety significance, which had the potential for greater consequences. Electrical jumpers were connected to the incorrect 4160 Volt safety bus. A phase rotation meter was destroyed and caused a breaker on a safety-related 480 Volt motor control center to trip after the meter was improperly connected to the motor control center. Piping which supported vessel level instrumentation was disconnected before another means of level indication was established for the shut down Unit 1 reactor. Cooling water was secured to the wrong reactor recirculation motor generator set, with its associated recirculation pump running. Human performance errors remain a concern deserving priority attention at Quad Cities.

In addition, corrective actions from previous problems were not carried out effectively in some cases. In one case this led to a near loss of feedwater event involving a diversion of about 25,000 gallons of contaminated condensate water through the backwash receiving tank and onto the turbine building floor. Two similar events in 1992 led to corrective action plans which, had they been carried out, could have prevented this event.

Based on the results of this inspection, the NRC has determined that three violations of NRC requirements occurred. These violations are being treated as Non-Cited Violations (NCVs), consistent with Appendix C of the Enforcement Policy. These NCVs are described in the subject inspection report. If you contest the violation or severity level of these NCVs, you should provide a response within 30 days of the date of this inspection report, with the basis for your denial, to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Document Control Desk,

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O. Kingsley

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Washington DC 20555-0001, with copies to the Regional Administrator, Region III, and the Director, Office of Enforcement, United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790, of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosure and your response, if you choose to provide one, will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Sincerely,

/s/ M. A. Ring

Mark A. Ring, Chief  
Reactor Projects Branch 1

Docket Nos. 50-254; 50-265  
License Nos. DPR-29; DPR-30

Enclosure: Inspection Report 50-254/99006(DRP);  
50-265/99006(DRP)

cc w/encl: D. Helwig, Senior Vice President  
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