



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION III
801 WARRENVILLE ROAD
LISLE, ILLINOIS 60532-4351

July 13, 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: LASALLE INSPECTION REPORT 50-373/99004(DRP); 50-374/99004(DRP)

Dear Mr. Kingsley:

This refers to the inspection conducted May 13 through June 22, 1999, at the LaSalle 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. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report.

Overall, your staff demonstrated a good safety focus and plant operations were conducted appropriately. Operators conducted activities in the main control room conservatively and safely. Operators and station personnel performed well during the conduct of routine plant operations. The conduct of most maintenance activities and radiological control activities were performed correctly.

However, multiple challenges to the main control room operators occurred during this inspection period. The items were generally a result of human performance weaknesses or were repeat issues that indicated that initial corrective actions taken to address deficient conditions were not always effective. For example, a trip of the Unit 2 containment cooling system, and corresponding increase in containment pressure, occurred partly because corrective actions taken to address a similar past problem on Unit 1 were narrow in scope. In addition, troubleshooting activities at the station did not always effectively resolve equipment failures and, as a result, operators were challenged by potentially unavailable equipment.

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

Sincerely,

/s/ M. Leach

Melvyn Leach, Chief
Reactor Projects Branch 2

Docket Nos. 50-373; 50-374
License Nos. NPF-11; NPF-18

Enclosure: Inspector, Report 50-373/99004(DRP);
50-374/99004(DRP)

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