

Exelon Generation Company, LLC  
LaSalle County Station  
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May 1, 2001

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Attention: Document Control Desk  
Washington, D.C. 20555

LaSalle County Station, Units 1 and 2  
Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-11 and NPF-18  
NRC Docket Nos. 50-373 and 50-374

Subject: Environmental Protection Plan Operating Report

Attached is the Exelon Generation Company (EGC), LLC, LaSalle County Station, 2000 Annual Environmental Operating Report for the Environmental Protection Plan as required by Section 5.4 of Appendix B to the Facility Operating Licenses.

This report includes information required by the following subsections of Appendix B.

- 3.1 Plant Design and Operation
- 4.2.1 Vegetative Integrity on the Cooling Pond Dike
- 5.4.1 Environmental Protection Plan Noncompliances and the Corrective Actions to Remedy Them
- 5.4.2 Non-routine Reports

Eighteen copies of this report are being submitted in accordance with Regulatory Guide 10.1.

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Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact  
Mr. William Riffer, Regulatory Assurance Manager, at (815) 357-6761,  
extension 2383.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Pardee" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Charles G. Pardee  
Site Vice President  
LaSalle County Station

Attachment

cc: Regional Administrator - NRC Region III  
NRC Senior Resident Inspector - LaSalle County Station

**Lasalle County Station  
Environmental Protection Plan**

**2000 Annual Environmental Operating Report**

**Introduction**

Presented below is a summary of environmentally related activities at LaSalle County Station for the year 2000. The summary reveals no significant environmental impacts as a result of station operation.

**Plant Design and Operation**

On May 9, 2000, NRC approved amendments to the Unit 1 & 2 Facility Operating Licenses to increase the maximum reactor core power level by 5% to 3489 megawatts thermal. An Evaluation of Environmental Impact was provided as part of the power uprate application package to determine if the change constituted an unreviewed environmental question per the Environmental Protection Plan, Subsection 3.1. The review concluded that the uprate would have insignificant non-radiological environmental impact and that an unreviewed environmental question did not exist. NRC's Environmental Assessment was consistent with this evaluation, and a Finding of No Significant Impact was issued in 65 FR 21491. Unit 1 power ascension started on May 17, 2000 and was completed on May 21, 2000. Unit 2 power ascension started on May 23, 2000 and was completed July 13, 2000. To date, no adverse environmental impacts attributable to power uprate have been observed.

No other changes were made in station design or operation, nor any tests or experiments performed, which have been classified as an unreviewed environmental question per the Environmental Protection Plan, Subsection 3.1

**Vegetative Integrity on the Cooling Pond Dike**

The vegetative integrity on the cooling pond dike was inspected in accordance with LaSalle County Station Surveillances LTS-1000-5, 'Minor Dike Inspection' and LTS-1000-32, 'Major Dike Inspections'. Inspections during 2000 were completed on April 14, April 26, June 13, July 25, August 14, October 19, and October 20. The results of the inspections determined that the vegetative growth on the LaSalle Cooling Pond Dike was in good condition. Small trees and shrubs were found on the various exterior dike toe areas and on the interior dikes. However, this growth has not impacted the integrity of any of the dikes and will be trended during the year 2001 monthly dike inspections. Action requests have been initiated to remove the extraneous growth and to correct various other minor dike discrepancies.

## **EPP Noncompliances and Corrective Actions Taken to Remedy Them**

During 2000, LaSalle County Station experienced one NPDES noncompliance. The events were submitted to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) in accordance with Standard Condition 12 of the station's NPDES Permit No. IL0048151. The following contains a description of the noncompliance and corrective actions taken:

### **EPP Noncompliance #1**

During the period of May 2, 2000 to June 1, 2000, total residual chlorine / total residual oxidant (TRC/TRO) was discharged through the Unit 1 Main Condenser for more than 2 hours per day and through both the Unit 1 and Unit 2 Main Condensers at the same time. This was a noncompliance with NPDES Permit, Special Condition 13.

Investigation found that the Chemical Feed System discharge cross-tie valve was opened and left in that position due to an inadequate startup procedure, causing TRC/TRO to be fed through both the Unit 1 and Unit 2 Main Condensers at the same time. During this period, the Unit 2 Chemical Feed System discharge lines became plugged, causing the Unit 2 treatment chemicals to be fed through the Unit 1 Main Condenser, resulting in 4 hours of TRC/TRO per day being discharged through this condenser.

There was no significant impact on the receiving waters in the Illinois River or the cooling lake due to this noncompliance, since the total amount of treatment chemicals applied for both units did not change and the NPDES chlorination limit of 0.05 mg/L was not exceeded during this period.

### **Corrective Action Taken to Remedy:**

- a) Entered this problem in the station correction action program and performed a root cause investigation under Action Tracking Item 29684.
- b) Revised the Chemical Feed System startup procedure to ensure the Chemical Feed System discharge cross-tie valve is not opened during system startup.
- c) Communicated the event to the other Exelon nuclear stations.

## **Non Routine Reports**

### **Non Routine Report #1**

On November 2, 1999, during removal of outdoor underground storage tanks for the old filling station, a waste oil tank was found to have leaked. Notifications were made to the National Response Center (Incident No. 504538), IEMA (Incident No. 992477), and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Immediate actions were taken to ensure the safety of personnel and the environment. Sampling of the released liquid was performed, and the liquid was removed from the hole to the maximum extent practicable. No radiological materials were involved. Subsequent analysis identified the presence of chlorinated solvents and heavy metals. In accordance with IEPA Leaking Underground Storage Tank regulations, a 20 Day Certification, 45 Day Report, and Free Product Removal Report were submitted to the IEPA. A Site Classification Work Plan was submitted to IEPA on March 27, 2000, which was conditionally approved on June 27, 2000, outlining station actions for characterizing the underground release. Site classification activities began with the installation of monitoring wells around the release area and core sampling of the ground on October 25-27, 2000. Groundwater sampling was scheduled for 2001. Site classification will determine if any remediation actions are required.

### **Non Routine Report #2**

In preparation for changing the company name on January 4, 2001 from Commonwealth Edison (ComEd) Company to Exelon Generation Company, (EGC), LLC, submittals were made to amend the following non-radiological environmental permits for LaSalle County Station:

<b><u>License or Permit</u></b>	<b><u>Agency</u></b>
NPDES Permit No. IL0048151	Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA)
Federally Enforceable State Operating Permit ID No. 099802AAA (Air Releases)	IEPA
Company Wide Open Burning Permit No. 0002010	IEPA
Dredging Permit No. CEMVR-RD-338650	Army Corps of Engineers
Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Generator ID ILD000803643	IEPA
RCRA Treatment Storage Disposal ID ILD000803643	IEPA
Registration of Noncommunity Public Water Supply ID No. 0093054	Illinois Department of Public Health
Class K Operator License for Domestic and Industrial Wastewater Plant Operation	IEPA

LaSalle County Floodplain Development Permit No. 97-21	LaSalle County Board
Microwave Radio Station License No. 002290-000	Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
Radio Station (WGH269) License File No. 9906R396243	FCC
Hazardous Materials Certificate of Registration No. 051500-018-038I	US Department of Transportation
National Voluntary Lab Accreditation Program Certification, Lab Code 100541-0	US Department of Commerce, National Institute of Standards and Technology

These permit amendments are under review by the appropriate regulators and are expected to be issued during the 2001 year.