

March 22, 2002

Mr. Oliver D. Kingsley, President
and Chief Nuclear Officer
Exelon Nuclear
Exelon Generation Company, LLC
4300 Winfield Road
Warrenville, Illinois 60555

SUBJECT: CLINTON POWER STATION, UNIT 1 - EMERGENCY OPERATIONS FACILITY
(TAC NO. MB1687)

Dear Mr. Kingsley:

By letter dated April 5, 2001, AmerGen Energy Company, LLC (the licensee), submitted a request to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for review and approval of the consolidation of its Clinton Power Station (CPS) emergency operations facility (EOF) into the centralized EOF (CEOF) operated by Exelon Generation Company, LLC (EGC). The EGC CEOF was accepted by the Commission on January 29, 1999, as stated in the NRC staff letter dated February 9, 1999.

The standards that emergency response plans for nuclear reactors must meet are delineated in 10 CFR 50.47 and in Appendix E to 10 CFR Part 50. Per SECY-96-170, dated September 18, 1996, Commission approval is required for an EOF located more than 25 miles from the nuclear plant. CPS is 136 miles from the CEOF located in Warrenville, IL.

We have reviewed the licensee's request and note the following:

- EGC's CEOF has been in operation since May 1999. The NRC observed the operation of this CEOF in several exercises and concluded that the facility's staff properly followed the established emergency plan and that the CEOF adequately performed its function.
- The licensee has obtained letters from the affected State and local jurisdictions approving the proposed integration of the CPS EOF into the CEOF. State and local authorities operate from their own emergency centers and do not travel to the licensee's EOF. Therefore, there will be no change in communication arrangements resulting from the use of the CEOF.
- To facilitate the integration, you have replaced some CPS managers with managers who were previously assigned to EGC plants. The licensee also stated in its request that it will provide training on the equipment differences between CPS and the EGC plants and on the differences in the operating philosophies, procedures, and processes of the two organizations.

The staff has determined that the licensee's proposal to consolidate the CPS EOF into the CEOF is a reasonable action and a logical move for AmerGen and EGC, since the CEOF is already operating. Furthermore, the staff concluded that the consolidation of the CPS EOF into EGC's CEOF does not reduce the effectiveness of the current CPS emergency response capability. The staff has found, through the NRC inspection program, that the use of the EGC CEOF provides reasonable assurance that the public will be protected in the event of an emergency at the EGC plants in the Midwest Regional Operating Group.

On February 27, 2002, based on the above, the staff recommended that the Commission approve consolidation of the CPS EOF into the EGC CEOF. On March 15, 2002, the Commission accepted the staff's recommendation with comments, which included a request to be informed of any significant emergency response problems that may result from the consolidation.

As a result of the staff's review and the Commission's acceptance of their recommendation, we find that the licensee's request to consolidate the CPS EOF into the EGC CEOF is acceptable. The staff will maintain focused attention on CPS emergency response capabilities to ensure that consolidation of the CPS EOF into the CEOF does not degrade effectiveness. Through the NRC inspection program, the staff will monitor that communication and coordination between the licensee, the public, and County, State, and Federal agencies are not adversely impacted by the consolidation.

Sincerely,

/RA by Singh Bajwa For/

Anthony J. Mendiola, Chief, Section 2
Project Directorate III
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-461

cc: See next page

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Clinton Power Station, Unit 1

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