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Re: Illinois Power Company, et al, Operating
License for the Clinton Power Station, Unit 1
Docket No. 50-461 OL

Dear Administrative Judges:

Enclosed, as Judge Clark requested yesterday at the Third Special Prehearing Conference, is a copy of the News Release in which Illinois Power Company announced a new schedule for fuel load and commercial operation of Unit 1 at the Clinton Power Station.

Very truly yours,

Charles D. Fox IV
One of the Attorneys for
Applicants

CDF:kb

Enclosure

cc: Secretary of the Commission ✓
Executive Legal Director
Philip L. Willman
Jan L. Kodner
Prairie Alliance
Herbert H. Livermore
Atomic Safety and Licensing
Board Panel
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Appeal Board Panel
Richard Goddard

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ILLINOIS



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For further information

contact: Al Adams, 217-424-6400

DECATUR, IL., April 15, 1982 -- Illinois Power Company today announced a new construction schedule and cost estimate for the Clinton nuclear power station Unit 1.

The new schedule for fuel load and commercial operation of the 950,000 - kilowatt plant is January and August, 1984, respectively, a 12-month extension of the existing schedule. The new schedule incorporates the seven-month delay in construction already cited in the March status report to the Illinois Commerce Commission.

Two factors primarily are responsible for extension of the schedule: 1) recent industry analysis of potential "water hammer" problems which required redesign of the control rod drive system, and 2) impact of a stop-work-order imposed January 15, 1982 on safety-related electrical work at the construction site. (Background information on the control rod drive system is attached.)

The new cost estimate for the plant is \$2.170 billion. This is an increase of \$351 million over the current estimate.

\$247 million of the revised estimate is due to extension of the construction schedule. The remaining \$104 million is

due primarily to: 1) an expanded quality assurance program at the construction site; 2) additional amounts of cable and other electrical components to meet changing design requirements, 3) enhancements to the steam supply system, and 4) redesign of the control rod drive system.

Wendell J. Kelley, Chairman and President, said:

"Illinois Power Company has made an absolute commitment to the building of a safe operating plant at Clinton. Our response to the potential 'water hammer' problem is a good example of our commitment.

"No problem with our present design has been demonstrated but to remove any doubt as to the safety of the system, we are in the process of a redesign of the control rod drive piping system. The bottom line is that we are now estimating the completion of construction in January, 1984; however, we are going to take whatever time and spend whatever money is necessary to insure a safe operating plant when it is completed."

Attachments: 1) Control Rod Drive Problem
2) Cost and Schedule Comparison

April 15, 1982

CONTROL ROD DRIVE PIPING PROBLEM

A control rod drive system is a mechanism used to control the amount of heat produced in nuclear reactors to boil water for making steam. When the control rods are fully inserted they halt the nuclear reaction and bring the plant to shutdown.

In late 1981 new, sophisticated methods of analysis used by the nuclear industry indicated some potential for "water hammer" in the piping of the control rod drive systems during times of fast shutdown. Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary defines water hammer as "a concussion or sound of concussion of moving water against the sides of a containing pipe or vessel".

While no known control rod drive piping deficiencies exist at Clinton or at any boiling water reactors now in operation, traditional methods of analysis can not disprove the water hammer theory or accurately determine its potential. By the time the industry was made aware of the new water hammer analysis, the original design work for the Clinton control rod drive system was nearly complete.

To further insure safety, to remove doubt about any possible water hammer problems, and to avoid licensing and start up delays at a later date, Illinois Power decided to redesign the Clinton control rod drive system. The redesign and scheduled completion of the new control rod drive system resulted in the estimate of the seven-month delay reported in March, 1982.

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COMPARISON OF ONE-UNIT BOILING WATER REACTOR
NUCLEAR PLANTS CURRENTLY UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Station	Utility Construction Nuclear Unit	Present Estimated Commercial Operation Date	Amount of Slippage in Estimated Dates	Original Estimate (Millions of Dollars)	Present Estimate (Millions of Dollars)	Percentage Increase over Original Estimate	Capacity Mw	Unit Cost per Kw
Shoreham #1	Long Island Lighting Co.	3/83	7 yrs. 9 mnths.	\$261	\$2,500	858%	819	\$3,052
Nine Mile Point #2	Niagara Mohawk Pwr. Co.	10/86	8 yrs. 10 mnths.	423	3,700	775%	1,100	3,364
Fermi #2	Detroit Edison	11/83	9 yrs. 10 mnths.	229	2,000	773%	1,092	1,831
Zimmer #1	Cincinnati Gas & Elec. Co.	1/83	8 yrs. 0 mnths.	201	1,258	526%	810	1,553
WNP #2	Wash. Public Pwr. Supply Sys.	2/84	6 yrs. 5 mnths.	465	3,103	567%	1,103	2,831
River Bend #1	Gulf States Utilities Co.	12/85	6 yrs. 3 mnths.	376	3,600	857%	940	3,830
Clinton #1	Illinois Power Company	8/84	4 yrs. 2 mnths.	429	2,170	406%	950	2,284