

**ILLINOIS
POWER**DOCKETED
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February 1, 1995 OFFICE OF SECRETARY
U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Docket No. 50-461

Secretary of the Commission,
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Docketing and Service Branch
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001DOCKET NUMBER
PROPOSED RULE **PR 50**
(59FR52707)

36

Subject: Illinois Power's Comments Regarding the NRC's
Proposed Rule on Shutdown and Low Power Operations

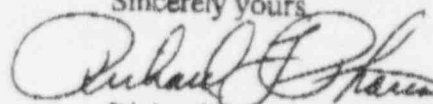
Dear Sir:

Illinois Power (IP) endorses the Nuclear Energy Institute's (NEI's) comments on the proposed shutdown rule. IP believes that the proposed rule will not add any substantial safety value for the additional operations and maintenance costs that the rule would add to an outage. The proposed rule lacks a current regulatory analysis that supports the proposed requirements. Once a revision to the regulatory analysis is available, the NRC should provide an opportunity for public comment. In addition, IP would like to confirm that Section (c)(2), Maintenance and Reestablishment of Containment Integrity, is not applicable to BWRs. It is believed that the current regulatory analysis (Table 2.2) indicates this, but it is unclear in this paragraph.

IP believes that implementation of NUMARC 91-06 guidance has improved shutdown safety in the industry and obviates the need for rulemaking. IP has reviewed Clinton Power Station's outage planning and execution procedures against the guidance of NUMARC 91-06 and has made some minor revisions to come into agreement with the guidance. IP firmly believes that a regulatory "footprint" is not necessary based on the improved shutdown safety performance resulting from the implementation of NUMARC 91-06.

The NRC should seriously consider the NEI's comments regarding the proposed rule, and make an additional period for public comment available when the regulatory analysis has been completed by the staff.

Sincerely yours

Richard F. Phares
Director, Licensing

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