

ILLINOIS POWER COMPANY



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CLINTON POWER STATION, P.O. BOX 678, CLINTON, ILLINOIS 61727

May 4, 1984

Docket No. 50-461

Mr. James G. Keppler
Regional Administrator
Region III
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
799 Roosevelt Road
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

Subject: Potential 10CFR50.55(e) Deficiency 55-84-10
Debris in NSPS Panels

Dear Mr. Keppler:

On April 3, 1984, Illinois Power notified Mr. F. Jablonski, NRC Region III (ref: IP memorandum Y-20521, dated April 3, 1984) of a potentially reportable deficiency under the provisions of 10CFR50.55(e), concerning the identification of loose debris found in the power supplies of the NSPS panels at CPS. Our investigation of this issue is progressing, and this letter is submitted as an interim report in accordance with the requirements of 10CFR50.55(e)(3).

Statement of Potentially Reportable Deficiency

Various types of metallic debris was found in the NSPS power supplies and could conceivably, under certain conditions, cause an electrical fault, resulting in the loss of the power supply. Loss of a power supply may potentially degrade the level of redundancy within the NSPS circuits. We are reviewing this concern for possible adverse impact on the safety of operation of the Clinton Power Station.

Background

Illinois Power's maintenance instructions for control room equipment require cleaning of panels and equipment prior to placing in service. While performing the required cleaning, maintenance personnel discovered some loose debris in one of the power supply cases. All eight (8) power supplies for the NSPS panels were inspected and similar types of debris, consisting of small pieces of wire, metal washers, metal chips, and pieces of plastic, were found. The debris could have originated at the GE fabrication facility in San Jose, or possibly, from work performed at CPS by the construction contractor, Baldwin Associates.

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Investigation Results/Corrective Action

Illinois Power has prepared and is implementing an investigation plan to determine the extent of this problem at CPS. The investigation plan includes:

1. A review of General Electric's, Illinois Power's, and Baldwin Associates' procedures to determine the adequacy of these procedures with respect to the inspection and cleaning requirements for electronic equipment.
2. A review of this problem with respect to the effects on other similar type equipment and perforated enclosures.

This potential deficiency will additionally require the review for adequacy of General Electric's cleaning, inspection, and shipping preparation procedures at the San Jose fabrication facility. Also, a review will be made of Baldwin Associates' procedures for protecting equipment during installation.

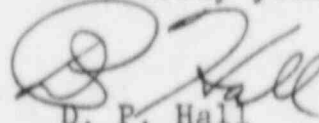
The scope and root cause of this issue have not yet been identified such that a determination of remedial and generic corrective action can be made. A review of procedural documents is currently in progress, and identified deficiencies will be corrected.

Safety Implications/Significance

Illinois Power's investigation of this potentially reportable deficiency is continuing. The safety implications and significance will be assessed after further background information is evaluated. Approximately ninety (90) days will be required to complete the investigation, determine reportability, and to file a final report on this potentially reportable deficiency.

We trust that this interim report provides sufficient information to perform a general assessment of this potential deficiency and adequately describes our overall approach to resolve this problem.

Sincerely yours,


D. P. Hall
Vice President

RLC/lag

cc: NRC Resident Office
Director, Office of I&E, US NRC, Washington DC 20555
Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety
INPO Records Center