

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Commonwealth Edison Company
LaSalle County Station
Units 1 and 2

Dockets No. 50-373; 50-374
Licenses No. NPF-11, NPF-18

During an NRC inspection conducted on June 22 through August 2, 1996, three violations of NRC requirements were identified. In accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedure for NRC Enforcement Actions," NUREG-1600, the violations are listed below:

1. 10 CFR, Appendix B, Criterion XVI, states in part that measures shall be established to assure that conditions adverse to quality are promptly identified and corrected. In the case of significant conditions adverse to quality, the measures shall assure that the cause of the condition is determined and corrective action taken to preclude repetition.

Contrary to the above, corrective actions for the December 24, 1994, main steam isolation valve closure and corrective actions for a problem identification form written on March 6, 1995, were not effective in preventing the recurrence of a significant condition adverse to quality, specifically, a main steam isolation valve closure and a reactor scram which occurred on June 16, 1996.

This is a Severity Level IV Violation (Supplement I).

2. Technical Specification Surveillance Requirement 4.6.1.1.a required that primary containment integrity be demonstrated operable by verifying at least once per 31 days that all primary containment penetrations not capable of being closed by operable containment automatic isolation valves and required to be closed during accident conditions are closed by valves, blind flanges, or deactivated automatic valves secured in position.

Contrary to the above, on August 2, 1996, the licensee identified that four primary containment isolation valves on each unit (specifically, the manual isolation valves to each narrow range suppression pool sightglass) had not been verified closed once per 31 days since plant startup. These valves were locked closed and had been checked every 18 months per an administrative procedure.

This is a Severity Level IV Violation (Supplement I).

3. Technical Specification 3.3.7.9 required in part that fire detection instrumentation for each fire detection zone be operable. The Action Statement of Technical Specification 3.3.7.9 required that with the number of operable fire detection instruments less than the minimum operable requirement of Table 3.3.7.9-1, within 1 hour, a fire watch patrol must be established to inspect the zone(s) with the inoperable instrument(s) at least once per hour.

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Contrary to the above, on July 31, 1996, at 6:00 a.m., the fire detection instrumentation for Unit 2 was inadvertently taken out of service and no fire watch was established until an operator identified the problem at 9:00 a.m.

This is a Severity Level IV Violation (Supplement I).

Pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 2.201, ComEd is hereby required to submit a written statement of explanation to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Document Control Desk, Washington, DC 20555 with a copy to the Regional Administrator, Region III, and a copy to the NRC Resident Inspector at the LaSalle facility, within 30 days of the date of the letter transmitting this Notice of Violation (Notice). This reply should be clearly marked as a "Reply to a Notice of Violation" and should include for each violation: (1) the reason for the violation, or, if contested, the basis for disputing the violation, (2) the corrective steps that have been taken and the results achieved, (3) the corrective steps that will be taken to avoid further violations, and (4) the date when full compliance will be achieved. Your response may reference or include previous docketed correspondence, if the correspondence adequately addresses the required response. If an adequate reply is not received within the time specified in this Notice, an order or a Demand for Information may be issued as to why the license should not be modified, suspended, or revoked, or why such other action as may be proper should not be taken. Where good cause is shown, consideration will be given to extending the response time.

Because your response will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR), to the extent possible, it should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be placed in the PDR without redaction. However, if you find it necessary to include such information, you should clearly indicate the specific information that you desire not to be placed in the PDR, and provide the legal basis to support your request for withholding the information from the public.

Dated at Lisle, Illinois
this 23rd day of September 1996