

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Commonwealth Edison Company
Braidwood Station
Braceville, Illinois

Docket No. 50-456
License No. NPF-72

During an NRC inspection conducted from October 12 through November 13, 1996, a violation of NRC requirements was identified. In accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedure for NRC Enforcement Actions," NUREG-1600, the violation is listed below:

10 CFR Part 50, Appendix B, Criterion V, "Instructions, Procedures and Drawings" states, "Activities affecting quality shall be prescribed by documented instructions, procedures and drawings, of a type appropriate to the circumstances and shall be accomplished in accordance with these instructions, procedures and drawings. Instructions, procedures and drawings shall include appropriate quantitative or qualitative acceptance criteria for determining that important activities have been satisfactorily accomplished."

Contrary to the above, prior to October 12, 1996, Braidwood procedure BwGP 100-5, "Plant Shutdown and Cooldown," an activity affecting quality, was not appropriate to the circumstances. Specifically, the procedure did not provide instructions or guidance for bypassing the charging flow control valve 1CV-121 which along with other circumstances, led to the unplanned opening of the pressurizer power operated relief valve, thus challenging the integrity of the reactor coolant system.

This is a Severity Level IV violation, Supplement I.

Pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 2.201, Commonwealth Edison Company is hereby required to submit a written statement or explanation to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Document Control Desk, Washington D.C. 20555 with a copy to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region III, 801 Warrenville Road, Lisle, Illinois 60532, and a copy to the NRC Resident Inspector at the Braidwood Station within 30 days of the date of the letter transmitting this Notice of Violation. 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. 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

22nd day of January 1997