



*** SAFEGUARDS INFORMATION ***
UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 13, 1997

Mr. Thomas Maiman
Executive Vice President,
Chief Nuclear Officer
Commonwealth Edison Co.
P. O. Box 767
Chicago, IL 60690

SUBJECT: ZION STATION, UNITS 1 & 2 - OPERATIONAL SAFEGUARDS RESPONSE
EVALUATION (TAC NOs. M95849 & M95850)

Dear Mr. Maiman:

This letter conveys the results and conclusions of the Operational Safeguards Response Evaluation (OSRE) conducted by the NRC's Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation at the Zion Station, Units 1 & 2, facility from August 5 through August 8, 1996.

One purpose of the OSRE program is to evaluate a licensee's ability to respond to an external threat by focusing on the interactions between operations and security in establishing priorities for protection of equipment and on the defensive strategies used. The OSRE also includes a safety/safeguards interface review to assure that safeguards measures do not adversely affect safe operation of the facility.

The OSRE conclusions are documented in the enclosed report. This enclosure, which contains safeguards information of a type specified in 10 CFR 73.21, will not be placed in the Public Document Room, and must be protected against unauthorized disclosure.

Potential weaknesses were indicated in two areas that should be addressed. The team also noted the high quality and extent of operations involvement in the planning and exercising of the contingency response capability. The team also concluded that effective provisions were in place to assure that safeguards measures did not adversely affect the safe operation of the facility.

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The enclosed report does not convey any new regulatory requirement. Its findings have been considered with respect to your ability to meet the general performance objective and requirements of 10 CFR 73.55(a). We request that you review the report and provide a response to this office within 120 days after receiving this letter. Your response should specifically address the two concerns identified in the report. Your response should include a discussion of why you believe corrective action is not warranted for the findings if you do not intend to take action.

This letter affects one respondent and, therefore, is not subject to the Office of Management and Budget review under Public Law 96-511.

If you have questions concerning this evaluation, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

LeMoine J. Cunningham, Chief

Safeguards Branch

Division of Reactor Program Management

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-295 & 50-304

Enclosure: Operational Safeguards Response
Evaluation

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*See previous concurrence

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Zion Nuclear Power Station
Unit Nos. 1 and 2

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