

Public

IE-01

February 3, 1997

Mr. J. H. Mueller  
Site Vice President  
Zion Station  
Commonwealth Edison Company  
101 Shiloh Boulevard  
Zion, IL 60099

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-295/96-17, 50-304/96-17 AND  
NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Mueller:

On December 6, 1996, the NRC completed an inspection at your Zion 1 and 2 reactor facilities. The enclosed report presents the results of that inspection.

During this eight-week inspection period, your staff's performance was characterized by recurrent events caused by personnel errors, lack of a questioning attitude, the failure to follow procedures, and inadequate procedures. Of particular concern was the identification by NRC inspectors of several safety-related component material condition deficiencies. In several instances, your staff did not evaluate the impact of the degraded conditions on equipment operability in a timely manner. The material condition problems also reflected poor attention to detail during post-maintenance restoration activities and system engineering walkdowns.

We are also concerned about five violations of NRC requirements that were identified. The first violation involves a failure to follow site procedures governing the control of out-of-service equipment. The second violation pertains to the failure to perform Technical Specification-required actions for an inoperable emergency diesel generator. The third violation relates to inadequate corrective actions for your staff's failure to ensure operability of a safety-related battery exhaust ventilation system. The fourth violation involves six examples of the failure to follow procedures. The fifth violation involves three examples of inadequate maintenance procedures.

These violations are cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation, and the circumstances surrounding the violations are described in detail in the enclosed report. Although your staff identified the violation pertaining to the inoperable emergency diesel generator, some examples of the failure to follow procedures, and examples of inadequate procedures, these licensee identified issues are included in the cited violations because they stem from previously identified performance problems which your staff has not yet effectively addressed.

Please note that you are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your

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response. The NRC will use your response, in part, to determine whether further enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements. In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosure, and your response will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

We will gladly discuss any questions you have concerning this inspection.

Sincerely,

/s/ J. A. Grobe for

J. L. Caldwell, Director  
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 50-295; 50-304  
License Nos. DPR-39; DPR-48

Enclosures: 1) Notice of Violation  
2) Inspection Report  
No. 50-295/96-17; 50-304/96-17

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