

U-600148
L14-85(08-28)-L
1A.120

ILLINOIS POWER COMPANY



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

August 28, 1985

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: Part 21 Considerations for Observation
Report No. 51: Installation Gap for Battery Cells

Dear Mr. Keppler:

During a March 7, 1985, meeting on the Clinton Power Station (CPS) Independent Design Review (IDR) with the NRC, Bechtel, the State of Illinois, Illinois Power Company (IPC) and Sargent & Lundy (S&L), Mr. Ted Ankrum of the NRC requested that S&L investigate the Part 21 implications of Observation Report (OR) 51. This letter is in response to Mr. Ankrum's request.

OR 51 deals with a 1" to 1- $\frac{1}{2}$ " gap between the end rail of a battery rack and the end battery cell. This condition differs from the qualification test condition where the cells were snug in the test rack. OR 51 represented a concern for cracking of the battery cell if it were allowed to strike the end rail during a seismic event.

S&L has shown by calculation (S&L Calculation #CQD-017830) that, under the design seismic load, the battery cells would not impact the battery rack end rail, and therefore, no substantial safety hazard exists. This calculation was the basis for closure of OR 51. Also, if the gap were to have remained uncorrected, it would not have adversely affected the safe operation of CPS. However, Illinois Power has taken action to eliminate the gap between the battery and the rack end rail.

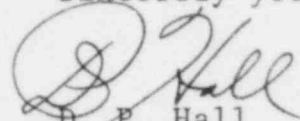
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In conclusion, IPC believes that the above S&L calculation adequately addresses the safety significance of OR 51 and shows that it is neither a 10CFR Part 21 nor a Part 50.55(e) reportable item. Please contact us if you have any further questions or comments.

Sincerely yours,


D. P. Hall
Vice President

JDT/lab

cc: B. L. Siegel, NRC Clinton Licensing Project Manager
NRC Resident Office
Director - Office of I&E, US NRC, Washington, DC 20555
Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety
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