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ILLINOIS POWER COMPANY



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

Docket No. 50-461

February 13, 1986

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Attention: Dr. W. R. Butler, Director
BWR Project Directorate No. 4
Division of BWR Licensing
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Subject: Clinton Power Station
Fire Damper Welds

Dear Dr. Butler:

Illinois Power (IP) has reviewed the Ruskin fire damper installations at Clinton Power Station (CPS). It was observed that the CPS installations have additional welds not specified in the manufacturer's installation instructions. Ruskin's installation instructions require fire damper closure angles (perimeter mounting angles) to be welded to the damper sleeves only. The closure angles are not shown to require attachments at the corners (angle-to-angle welding). However, fire damper closure angles at CPS are welded together at the corners, providing additional strength.

Sargent & Lundy has performed detailed finite element heat transfer and stress analyses to evaluate whether welded corner closure angles would have any detrimental effect on the ability of the fire dampers to close and remain closed. These calculations show that welded corner closure angles do not hinder the ability of the fire dampers to perform their design function during a 3-hour ASTM E-119 fire condition.

These fire damper installations have also been brought to the attention of Professional Loss Control, Inc. (PLC) who agree that welded corner closure angle installations will not affect the ability of the dampers to perform their intended functions during a fire.

In summary, it is IP's position that the welded corner closure angles will not impact the ability of the Ruskin fire dampers to close when required.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "F. A. Spangenberg".

F. A. Spangenberg
Manager - Licensing and Safety

DWW/ckc

cc: B. L. Siegel, NRC Clinton Licensing Project Manager
NRC Resident Office
Regional Administrator, Region III, USNRC
Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety

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