Mr. Charles G. Pardee
Chief Nuclear Officer and
Senior Vice President
Exelon Nuclear
Exelon Generation Company, LLC
4300 Winfield Road
Warrenville, IL 60555

SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER - BYRON STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2

05000454/2008001 AND 05000455/2008001

Dear Mr. Pardee:

On February 13, 2008, the NRC staff completed its performance review of Byron Station, Units 1 and 2. Our technical staff reviewed performance indicators (PIs) for the most recent quarter and inspection results for the period from January 1 through December 31, 2007. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our assessment of your safety performance during this period and our plans for future inspections at your facility.

This performance review and enclosed inspection plan do not include security information. A separate letter designated and marked as "Official Use Only – Security Related Information" will include the security cornerstone review and resultant inspection plan.

Overall, Byron Station, Units 1 and 2 operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and fully met all cornerstone objectives. Unit 1 performance for the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response column of the NRC's Action Matrix, based on all inspection findings being classified as having very low safety significance (Green) and all PIs indicating performance at a level requiring no additional NRC oversight (Green). Therefore, we plan to conduct reactor oversight process (ROP) baseline inspections at your facility. Although Unit 1 performance was within the Licensee Response column, the significance of the degradation of the Essential Service Water (SX) risers is still under review as part of the Significance Determination Process which, when finalized, may change our assessment of your plants' safety performance.

Unit 2 performance for the most recent quarter was within the Regulatory Response column of the NRC's Action Matrix, based on a White Mitigating System Performance Index, Heat Removal Systems PI originating in the second quarter of CY 2006. Although Unit 2 performance was within the Regulatory Response column, the degradation of the Essential Service Water (SX) risers is still under review as part of the Significance Determination Process which, when finalized, may change our assessment of your plants' safety performance.

C. Pardee -2-

On January 10, 2007, we were notified by your staff of your readiness for the NRC to conduct a supplemental inspection to review the actions taken to address the White Mitigating System Performance Index, Heat Removal Systems performance indicator. We conducted supplemental inspection procedure 95001 during the week of February 5, 2007. Based on the results of this inspection, no findings of significance were identified. Therefore, pending the outcome of the significance determination of the SX riser issue, we plan to conduct reactor oversight process (ROP) baseline inspections at your facility.

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections, including baseline and other infrequently conducted inspections, less those related to security, scheduled through June 30, 2009. The inspection plan is provided to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues well in advance of inspector arrival onsite. Routine resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature. The inspections in the last nine months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the mid-cycle review.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's Rules of Practice, a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <a href="http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html">http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html</a> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

If circumstances arise which cause us to change this inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact Richard Skokowski at 630-829-9620 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Cynthia D. Pederson, Director Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 50-454; 50-455 License Nos. NPF-37; NPF-66

Enclosure: Byron Inspection/Activity Plan

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C. Pardee -2-

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Sincerely,

Cynthia D. Pederson, Director Division of Reactor Projects

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Enclosure: Byron Inspection/Activity Plan

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| OFFICE | RIII          |    | RIII       | RIII      |  |  |  |
|--------|---------------|----|------------|-----------|--|--|--|
| NAME   | JBartleman:di | tp | RSkokowski | CPederson |  |  |  |
| DATE   | 02/27/08      |    | 02/27/08   | 02/28/08  |  |  |  |

Letter to C. Pardee from Cynthia Pederson dated March 3, 2008

SUBJECT: ASSESSMENT LETTER - BYRON STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2

05000454/2008001; 05000455/2008001

cc w/encl: Site Vice President - Byron Station

Plant Manager - Byron Station

Regulatory Assurance Manager - Byron Station Chief Operating Officer and Senior Vice President Senior Vice President - Midwest Operations Senior Vice President - Operations Support

Vice President - Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Director - Licensing and Regulatory Affairs

Manager Licensing - Braidwood, Byron, and LaSalle

Associate General Counsel

Document Control Desk - Licensing

**Assistant Attorney General** 

Illinois Emergency Management Agency

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Chairman, Illinois Commerce Commission

B. Quigley, Byron Station President, Village of Leaf River President, Village of Davis Junction

President, Village of Stillman Valley

Ogle County Board Chairman

Ogle County Sheriff/EMA Coordinator EMA Coordinator, Winnebago County

Winnebago County Board Chair Winnebago County Sheriff/ESDA

Mayor of Oregon Mayor of Byron

President, Village of Mt. Morris

Mayor of Rochelle

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Letter to C. Pardee from Cynthia Pederson dated March 3, 2008

SUBJECT: ASSESSMENT LETTER - BYRON STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2

05000454/2008001; 05000455/2008001

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TEB

RidsNrrDirslpab

JLC1

MAS

JKH3

KGO

RML2

SRI Byron

DRPIII

DRSIII

PLB1

TXN

ROPreports@nrc.gov (inspection reports, final SDP letters, any letter with an IR number)

## **Byron**

## Inspection / Activity Plan 03/01/2008 - 06/30/2009

| In an action Actions | T:0-   | No. of Staff | Planned<br>Start |            | Inspection                |  |
|----------------------|--|--------------|------------------|------------|---------------------------|--|
| Inspection Activity  | Title  | on Site      | Start            | End        | Туре                      |  |
| SIT - SPECIA         | AL INSP TEAM - BYRON SX EVENT  | 3            |                  |            |                           |  |
| IP 71153             | Followup of Events and Notices of Enforcement Discretion                     |              | 01/01/2008       | 03/28/2008 | Baseline Inspections      |  |
| IP 93812             | Special Inspection   |              | 01/01/2008       | 03/28/2008 | Event Response Inspec     |  |
|                      | N INITIAL LIC ON-SITE VALIDATION   | 4            |                  |            |                           |  |
| W90180               | OL - INITIAL EXAM - APRIL/MAY 2008 - BYRO                                    |              | 04/28/2008       | 05/02/2008 | Not Applicable            |  |
| BI ENG - ENGIN       | EERING INSERVICE INSPECTION\TI 172   | 2            |                  |            |                           |  |
| IP 2515/172          | Reactor Coolant System Dissimiliar Metal Butt Welds                          |              | 03/17/2008       | 04/11/2008 | Generic Safety Inspection |  |
| IP 7111108P          | Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR  |              | 03/17/2008       | 04/11/2008 | Baseline Inspections      |  |
| BI RP - RADIA        | TION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION  | 1            |                  |            |                           |  |
| IP 7112101           | Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas                           |              | 03/24/2008       | 03/28/2008 | Baseline Inspections      |  |
| IP 7112102           | ALARA Planning and Controls  |              | 03/24/2008       | 03/28/2008 | Baseline Inspections      |  |
| BI EP - EP RO        | UTINE INSPECTION / PI VERIFICATION   | 1            |                  |            |                           |  |
| IP 7111402           | Alert and Notification System Testing  |              | 04/07/2008       | 04/11/2008 | EP Baseline Inspection    |  |
| IP 7111403           | Emergency Response Organization Augmentation Testing                         |              | 04/07/2008       | 04/11/2008 | EP Baseline Inspection    |  |
| IP 7111405           | Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies             |              | 04/07/2008       | 04/11/2008 | EP Baseline Inspection    |  |
| IP 71151-EP01        | Drill/Exercise Performance   |              | 04/07/2008       | 04/11/2008 | Baseline Inspections      |  |
| IP 71151-EP02        | ERO Drill Participation  |              | 04/07/2008       | 04/11/2008 | Baseline Inspections      |  |
| IP 71151-EP03        | Alert & Notification System  |              | 04/07/2008       | 04/11/2008 | Baseline Inspections      |  |
| OL EXAM - BYRON      | N INITIAL LICENSE EXAM (05/19 - 30)  | 4            |                  |            |                           |  |
| W90180               | OL - INITIAL EXAM - APRIL/MAY 2008 - BYRO                                    |              | 05/19/2008       | 05/30/2008 | Not Applicable            |  |
| ISFSI - ISFSI I      | NSPECTION  | 1            |                  |            |                           |  |
| IP 60853             | On-Site Fabrication Of Components And Construction On An ISFSI               |              | 07/01/2008       | 09/30/2008 | Other Routine             |  |
| IP 60856             | Review of 10 CFR 72.212(b) Evaluations                                       |              | 07/01/2008       | 09/30/2008 | Other Routine             |  |
| 2515/172 - TI 2515   | 5/172 RCS WELD INSPECTION  | 1            |                  |            |                           |  |
| IP 2515/172          | Reactor Coolant System Dissimiliar Metal Butt Welds                          |              | 07/21/2008       | 07/25/2008 | Generic Safety Inspection |  |
| BI RP - RADIA        | TION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION  | 1            |                  |            |                           |  |
| IP 7112103           | Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation and Protective Equipment                |              | 08/11/2008       | 08/15/2008 | Baseline Inspections      |  |
| IP 71151-BI01        | Reactor Coolant System Activity  |              | 08/11/2008       | 08/15/2008 | Baseline Inspections      |  |
| IP 71151-OR01        | Occupational Exposure Control Effectiveness                                  |              | 08/11/2008       | 08/15/2008 | Baseline Inspections      |  |
| IP 71151-PR01        | RETS/ODCM Radiological Effluent  |              | 08/11/2008       | 08/15/2008 | Baseline Inspections      |  |
| HD DROP - RPV H      | EAD DROP ANALYSIS INSPECTION   | 1            |                  |            |                           |  |
| IP 7111120           | Refueling and Other Outage Activities  |              | 08/11/2008       | 08/29/2008 | Baseline Inspections      |  |
| 2515/171 - TI 2515   | 5/171 B5B PHASE 2 AND 3  | 2            |                  |            |                           |  |
| IP 2515/171          | VERIFICATION OF SITE SPECIFIC IMPLEMENTATION OF B.5.B PHASE 2 & 3 MITIGATING | G            | 08/25/2008       | 08/29/2008 | Generic Safety Inspection |  |

## Byron Inspection / Activity Plan 03/01/2008 - 06/30/2009

|              |   | No. of Staff | Planned    | d Dates    | Inspection                |  |
|--------------|---|--------------|------------|------------|---------------------------|--|
| Inspection A | ctivity Title                                       | on Site      | Start      | End        | Туре                      |  |
| BI RP        | - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION          | 1            |            |            |                           |  |
| IP 7112101   | Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas  |              | 10/06/2008 | 10/10/2008 | Baseline Inspections      |  |
| IP 7112102   | ALARA Planning and Controls                         |              | 10/06/2008 | 10/10/2008 | Baseline Inspections      |  |
| BI ENG       | - ENGINEERING INSERVICE INSPECTION/ TI 172          | 2            |            |            |                           |  |
| IP 2515/172  | Reactor Coolant System Dissimiliar Metal Butt Welds |              | 10/06/2008 | 10/31/2008 | Generic Safety Inspection |  |
| IP 7111108P  | Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR               |              | 10/06/2008 | 10/31/2008 | Baseline Inspections      |  |
| BI OL        | - BIENNIAL REQUAL. PROGRAM INSPECTION               | 2            |            |            |                           |  |
| IP 7111111B  | Licensed Operator Requalification Program           |              | 11/03/2008 | 11/07/2008 | Baseline Inspections      |  |
| BI ENG       | - COMPONENT DESIGN BASES INSPECTION                 | 6            |            |            |                           |  |
| IP 7111121   | Component Design Bases Inspection                   |              | 01/26/2009 | 02/27/2009 | Baseline Inspections      |  |
| BI RP        | - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION          | 1            |            |            |                           |  |
| IP 7112101   | Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas  |              | 02/09/2009 | 02/13/2009 | Baseline Inspections      |  |
| IP 7112102   | ALARA Planning and Controls                         |              | 02/09/2009 | 02/13/2009 | Baseline Inspections      |  |
| BI RP        | - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION          | 1            |            |            |                           |  |
| IP 7112101   | Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas  |              | 05/11/2009 | 05/15/2009 | Baseline Inspections      |  |
| TI           | - TEMPORARY INSTRUCTION 2515/172                    | 1            |            |            |                           |  |
| IP 2515/172  | Reactor Coolant System Dissimiliar Metal Butt Welds |              | 06/22/2009 | 06/26/2009 | Generic Safety Inspection |  |