

August 22, 2002

Mr. John L. Skolds, President
Exelon Nuclear
Exelon Generation Company, LLC
4300 Winfield Road
Warrenville, IL 60555

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND INSPECTION PLAN BRAIDWOOD
STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2

Dear Mr. Skolds:

On July 31, 2002, the NRC staff completed its mid-cycle plant performance assessment of the Braidwood Station Units 1 and 2. In accordance with NRC Inspection Manual Chapter 0305 "Operating Reactor Assessment Program," the mid-cycle review involved the participation of all technical divisions in evaluating the performance of your Braidwood station facility for the first half of the current assessment cycle, January 1 to December 31, 2002. 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 so that you will have an opportunity to prepare for these inspections and inform us of any planned inspections which may conflict with your plant activities.

The NRC Action Matrix defines the expected level of response by the NRC and licensee based on inputs from the assessment process. Actions are graded such that the NRC becomes more engaged as licensee performance declines. Plant performance for the most recent quarter was within the Degraded Cornerstone Column which corresponds to the third column of this matrix and indicates declining performance in the Mitigation Systems Cornerstone for Unit 1. This assessment was based on one White Performance Indicator (Safety System Unavailability, Heat Removal System (Auxiliary Feedwater)) for Unit 1 and one low to moderate safety (White) finding concerning the Unit 1 pressurizer power operated relief valve air accumulator check valves. This finding was identified by the NRC in February 2002; however, the final risk significance was not determined until July 2002. The finding was determined to be a violation of NRC requirements for failing to prevent recurring failures of the air accumulator check valves.

In accordance with the Action Matrix, the NRC will conduct Supplemental Inspection 95002 "Inspection For One Degraded Cornerstone or Any Three White Inputs In A Strategic Performance Area". The purpose of this inspection is to (1) provide assurance that the root and contributing causes for the individual and collective risk significant performance issues are understood; (2) independently assess the extent of condition; and (3) provide assurance that the corrective actions are sufficient to prevent recurrence. We will work with your staff to confirm the specific inspection dates.

Also, in March 2002, the NRC completed Supplemental Inspection 95001, "Inspection For One or Two White Inputs in a Strategic Performance Area" which focused on your actions with respect to the auxiliary feedwater system performance. The results of that inspection were communicated to you in NRC Inspection Report 50-456/02-04.

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections scheduled through September 30, 2003. The inspection plan is provided to minimize the resource impact on your staff and to allow for scheduling conflicts and personnel availability to be resolved in advance of inspector arrival onsite. Routine resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature. The inspection plan for the last 6 months is tentative and may be revised at the end-of-cycle review.

In addition, the NRC is in the process of finalizing a Temporary Instruction that will be used to review implementation of the Interim Compensatory Measures required by the Agency's Security Order to all commercial nuclear power plants dated February 25, 2002. Schedules have not yet been finalized, but it is anticipated that these inspections will begin within the next calendar quarter. Once finalized, the details will be communicated by separate correspondence.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 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 <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> the Public Electronic Reading Room).

If circumstances arise which cause us to change the inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact Ann Marie Stone, Chief, Reactor Projects Branch 3, at (630) 829-9729, with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,

/RA by James Caldwell acting for/

J. E. Dyer
Regional Administrator

Docket Nos. 50-456; 50-457
License Nos. NPF-72; NPF-77

Enclosure: Braidwood Station Inspection/Activity Plan

See Attached Distribution

DOCUMENT NAME: G:\Branch TSS\midcycle2002\inspectionplnltrs-02\bra-inspectionplnltr.wpd

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| OFFICE | Rlll | | Rlll | | Rlll | | Rlll | | | |
| NAME | TTongue:co | | AMStone | | GGrant | | JDyer | | | |
| DATE | 08/ /02 | | 08/ /02 | | 08/ /02 | | 08/ /02 | | | |

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

cc w/encl: Site Vice President - Braidwood
Braidwood Station Plant Manager
Regulatory Assurance Manager - Braidwood
Chief Operating Officer
Senior Vice President - Nuclear Services
Senior Vice President - Mid-West Regional
Operating Group
Vice President - Mid-West Operations Support
Vice President - Licensing and Regulatory Affairs
Director Licensing - Mid-West Regional
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Chairman, Illinois Commerce Commission
J. Mikan, Will County Executive/
Board Chairman
B. Ward, Will County Sheriff
D. Gould, Will County Emergency Management
Coordinator/Director
The Honorable Arthur Schultz
J. Mezera, Joliet City Manager
J. Church, Kendall County Board Chairman
R. Randall, Kendall County Sheriff
D. Kaufman, Grundy County Board Chairman
J. L. Olson, Grundy County Sheriff
Grundy County Emergency Management
Coordinator/Director
The Honorable Richard Kopczick
The Honorable Richard Ellis
The Honorable Gerald V. Pierard
The Honorable Joseph Fracaro
The Honorable Elmer Rolando
The Honorable Richard Girot
The Honorable Tony McGann
The Honorable Wayne Chesson
M. T. Gibson, Channahon Village Administrator
The Honorable Richard Chapman
K. Carroll, Shorewood Village Administrator
The Honorable Robert Blum
The Honorable Marchel Michael

The Honorable Donald Green
INPO

J. Skolds

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SRI Braidwood

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PLB1

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Braidwood
Inspection / Activity Plan
09/01/2002 - 09/30/2003

| Unit Number | Inspection Activity | Title | No. of Staff on Site | Planned Dates | | Inspection Type |
|----------------|---------------------|--|-------------------------|---------------|------------|----------------------|
| | | | | Start | End | |
| | 95002 | - INSP FOR ONE DEGRADED CORNERSTONE OR ANY | 5 | | | |
| 1 | IP 95002 | Inspection For One Degraded Cornerstone Or Any Three White Inputs In A Strategic Performar | | 08/26/2002 | 12/28/2002 | Supplemental Program |
| | IP 71114 | - EP BASELINE INSPECTION (EXERCISE) | 3 | | | |
| 1, 2 | IP 7111401 | Exercise Evaluation | | 10/07/2002 | 10/11/2002 | Baseline Inspections |
| 1, 2 | IP 71151 | Performance Indicator Verification | | 10/07/2002 | 10/11/2002 | Baseline Inspections |
| | IP 71121 | - RP ALARA & ACCESS CONTROLS INSPECTION | 1 | | | |
| 1, 2 | IP 7112101 | Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas | | 10/21/2002 | 10/25/2002 | Baseline Inspections |
| 1, 2 | IP 7112102 | ALARA Planning and Controls | | 10/21/2002 | 10/25/2002 | Baseline Inspections |
| 1, 2 | IP 71151 | Performance Indicator Verification | | 10/21/2002 | 10/25/2002 | Baseline Inspections |
| | IP 71122 | - LIQ/GASEOUS RAD SAFETY INSPECTION | 1 | | | |
| 1, 2 | IP 7112101 | Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas | | 01/06/2003 | 01/10/2003 | Baseline Inspections |
| 1, 2 | IP 7112201 | Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment and Monitoring Systems | | 01/06/2003 | 01/10/2003 | Baseline Inspections |
| | MOD50.59 | - BIENNIAL PLANT MODS AND 50.59 | 3 | | | |
| 1, 2 | IP 7111102 | Evaluation of Changes, Tests, or Experiments | | 01/13/2003 | 01/17/2003 | Baseline Inspections |
| 1, 2 | IP 711117B | Permanent Plant Modifications | | 01/13/2003 | 01/17/2003 | Baseline Inspections |
| | INSP | - UNIT 1 OUTAGE | 1 | | | |
| 1, 2 | IP 7112101 | Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas | | 04/07/2003 | 04/11/2003 | Baseline Inspections |
| 1 | IP 7112102 | ALARA Planning and Controls | | 04/07/2003 | 04/11/2003 | Baseline Inspections |
| 1, 2 | IP 71151 | Performance Indicator Verification | | 04/07/2003 | 04/11/2003 | Baseline Inspections |
| | ISI | - ISI FOR UNIT 1 | 1 | | | |
| 1 | IP 7111108 | Inservice Inspection Activities | | 04/07/2003 | 04/18/2003 | Baseline Inspections |
| | ISI | - TI-145 FOR UNIT 1 | 1 | | | |
| 1 | IP 2515/145 | Circumferential Cracking of Reactor Pressure Vessel Head Penetration Nozzles (NRC Bulletin . | | 04/07/2003 | 04/18/2003 | Safety Issues |
| | INSP | - EP NON-EXERCISE INSPECTION | 1 | | | |
| 1, 2 | IP 7111402 | Alert and Notification System Testing | | 04/21/2003 | 04/25/2003 | Baseline Inspections |
| 1, 2 | IP 7111403 | Emergency Response Organization Augmentation Testing | | 04/21/2003 | 04/25/2003 | Baseline Inspections |
| 1, 2 | IP 7111405 | Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies | | 04/21/2003 | 04/25/2003 | Baseline Inspections |
| 1, 2 | IP 71151 | Performance Indicator Verification | | 04/21/2003 | 04/25/2003 | Baseline Inspections |
| | HT SNK B | - HEAT SINK BIENNIAL (DRS) | 1 | | | |
| 1, 2 | IP 7111107B | Heat Sink Performance | | 05/12/2003 | 05/16/2003 | Baseline Inspections |
| | FPI | - TRIENNIAL FIRE PROTECTION | 3 | | | |
| 1, 2 | IP 7111105T | Fire Protection | | 06/23/2003 | 07/11/2003 | Baseline Inspections |
| | INSP | - REMP | 1 | | | |
| 1, 2 | IP 7112101 | Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas | | 07/07/2003 | 07/11/2003 | Baseline Inspections |

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.
This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.

Braidwood
Inspection / Activity Plan
09/01/2002 - 09/30/2003

| Unit Number | Inspection Activity | Title | No. of Staff on Site | Planned Dates | | Inspection Type |
|----------------|--|---|-------------------------|---------------|------------|----------------------|
| | | | | Start | End | |
| | INSP - REMP | | 1 | | | |
| 1, 2 | IP 7112203 | Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program | | 07/07/2003 | 07/11/2003 | Baseline Inspections |
| 1, 2 | IP 71151 | Performance Indicator Verification | | 07/07/2003 | 07/11/2003 | Baseline Inspections |
| | MR - MAINTENANCE RULE | | 1 | | | |
| 1, 2 | IP 7111112B | Maintenance Effectiveness | | 08/04/2003 | 08/08/2003 | Baseline Inspections |
| | SSDI - SAFETY SYSTEM DESIGN | | 5 | | | |
| 1, 2 | IP 7111121 | Safety System Design and Performance Capability | | 08/25/2003 | 09/12/2003 | Baseline Inspections |
| | 71111.11 - LIC OPERATOR REQUAL PROGRAM EVALUATION | | 2 | | | |
| 1, 2 | IP 7111111B | Licensed Operator Requalification | | 09/29/2003 | 10/03/2003 | Baseline Inspections |

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This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.