

September 30, 1999

Mr. John H. Mueller
Chief Nuclear Officer
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station
Operations Building, 2nd Floor
P.O. Box 63
Lycoming, NY 13093

SUBJECT: SENIOR REACTOR AND REACTOR OPERATOR INITIAL EXAMINATIONS -
NINE MILE POINT 1

Dear Mr. Mueller:

In a telephone conversation on September 27, 1999, between Mr. J. Williams and Mr. J. Bobka, arrangements were made for the administration of licensing examinations at Nine Mile Point 1, during the week of February 14, 2000.

As agreed during the telephone conversation, your staff will prepare the examinations based on the guidelines in Revision 8, of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." The NRC regional office will discuss with your staff any changes that might be necessary before the examinations are administered.

To meet the above schedule, it will be necessary for your staff to furnish the examination outlines by December 1, 1999. The written examinations, operating tests, and the supporting reference materials identified in the enclosure to this letter will be due by December 29, 1999. Pursuant to 10 CFR 55.40(b)(3), an authorized representative of the facility licensee shall approve the outlines, examinations and tests before they are submitted to the NRC for review and approval. All materials should be complete and ready-to-use. Any delay in receiving the required examination and reference materials, or the submittal of inadequate or incomplete materials, may cause the examinations to be rescheduled.

In order to conduct the requested written examinations and operating tests, it will be necessary for your staff to provide adequate space and accommodations in accordance with ES-402, and to make the simulation facility available on the dates noted above. In accordance with ES-302, your staff should retain the original simulator performance data (e.g., system pressures, temperatures, and levels) generated during the dynamic operating tests until the examination results are final.

Appendix E of NUREG-1021 contains a number of NRC policies and guidelines that will be in effect while the written examinations and operating tests are being administered.

To permit timely NRC review and evaluation, your staff should submit preliminary reactor operator and senior reactor operator license applications (Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval number 3150-0090), medical certifications (OMB approval number 3150-0024), and waiver requests (if any) (OMB approval number 3150-0090) at least 30 days before the first examination date. If the applications are not received at least 30 days before the examination date, a postponement may be necessary. Signed applications certifying that all training has been completed should be submitted at least 14 days before the first examination date.

This letter contains information collections that are subject to the *Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995* (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). These information collections were approved by the Office of Management and Budget, approval number 3150-0101, which expires on September 30, 2000.

The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 500 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining the data needed, writing the examinations, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments on any aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Information and Records Management Branch (T-6 F33), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, or by Internet electronic mail at BJS1@NRC.GOV; and to the Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, NEOB-10202, (3150-0101), Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

The NRC may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Mr. J. Bobka has been advised of the policies and guidelines referenced in this letter. If you have any questions regarding the NRC's examination procedures and guidelines, please contact J. Williams at (610) 337-5124, or me at (610) 337-5183.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Richard J. Conte, Chief
Human Performance and
Emergency Preparedness Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No. 50-220

Enclosure: Reference Material

Mr. John H. Mueller

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cc w/encl:

G. Wilson, Esquire

M. Wetterhahn, Winston and Strawn

J. Rettberg, New York State Electric and Gas Corporation

P. Eddy, Electric Division, Department of Public Service, State of New York

C. Donaldson, Esquire, Assistant Attorney General, New York Department of Law

J. Vinqvist, MATS, Inc.

F. Valentino, President, New York State Energy Research
and Development Authority

J. Spath, Program Director, New York State Energy Research
and Development Authority

L. Pisano, Manager - Training

Mr. John H. Mueller

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NAME	JWilliams		RConte						
DATE	03/28/01		03/ /01		03/ /01		03/ /01		03/ /01

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ENCLOSURE

REFERENCE MATERIAL

1. Procedures that go with the proposed JPMs, including those used in Section 'A' of the walk-through.
2. Lesson plans and system descriptions for the systems covered by the JPM (walk-through).
3. Copy of the AOPs and EOPs.
4. Copy of the Technical Specifications and any associated interpretations.