

April 4, 2002

Mr. Mano Nazar
Site Vice-President
Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant
Nuclear Management Company, LLC
1717 Wakonade Drive East
Welch, MN 55089

Dear Mr. Nazar:

In a telephone conversation on April 2, 2002, between Mr. John Kempkes, Supervisor Initial Licensing and Mr. Hironori Peterson, Chief Examiner, arrangements were made for the administration of licensing examinations at the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant the week of August 12, 2002. In addition, the NRC will make an examination validation visit to your facility the week of July 15, 2002.

The NRC will prepare the examinations based on the guidelines in Revision 8, Supplement 1, of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." Your staff will be given the opportunity to review the examinations on July 9 and 10, 2002, and the week of July 15, 2002.

To meet the above schedule, it will be necessary for your staff to furnish the reference materials identified in Attachment 2 of ES-201 by May 10, 2002. Any delay in receiving the required 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 3150-0018, which expires on April 30, 2003.

The public reporting burden for this collection is estimated to average 50 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining the data needed, 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, D.C. 20555-0001, or by Internet electronic mail at BJS1@NRC.GOV; and to the Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, NEOB-10202, (3150-0018), Office of Management and Budget, Washington, D.C. 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. Kempkes 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 Mr. Peterson at 630-829-9707, or me at 630-829-9733.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be 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/NRC/ADAMS/index.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Sincerely,

/RA/

David E. Hills, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-282; 50-306
License Nos. DPR-42; DPR-60

See Attached Distribution

cc w/encl: Plant Manager, Prairie Island
 R. Anderson, Executive Vice President
 and Chief Nuclear Officer
 Site Licensing Manager
 Nuclear Asset Manager
 J. Malcolm, Commissioner, Minnesota
 Department of Health
 State Liaison Officer, State of Wisconsin
 Tribal Council, Prairie Island Indian Community
 J. Silberg, Esquire
 Shawn, Pittman, Potts, and Trowbridge
 A. Neblett, Assistant Attorney General
 Office of the Attorney General
 S. Bloom, Administrator
 Goodhue County Courthouse
 Commissioner, Minnesota Department
 of Commerce
 J. Jensen, Training Department

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 and Chief Nuclear Officer
 Site Licensing Manager
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 J. Malcolm, Commissioner, Minnesota
 Department of Health
 State Liaison Officer, State of Wisconsin
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