

February 7, 2003

Mr. T. Coutu
Site Vice President
Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant
N490 Hwy 42
Kewaunee, WI 54216

Dear Mr. Coutu:

In a telephone conversation on January 27, 2003, between Mr. S. Johnson, Kewaunee Initial License Training Exam Lead, and Mr. C. Zoia, NRC Examiner, preliminary arrangements were made for the administration of initial licensing examinations at the Kewaunee Nuclear Generating Plant during the weeks of February 2, 2004, and February 9, 2004. The Chief Examiner for this examination is C. Phillips. Also, the NRC will make an examination validation visit to your facility during the week of January 12, 2004.

The NRC will prepare the examinations based on the guidelines in NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." As discussed in the telephone call, it is your staff's option whether these examinations are prepared per NUREG 1021, Revision 8, Supplement 1, or NUREG 1021, Revision 9 (Draft). Please indicate your choice, in writing, as soon as possible, but no later than March 15, 2003. Your staff will be given an opportunity to review the written examination on January 7-8, 2004, at the Region III office. Your staff will be given the opportunity to review the written examination and operating test material at Kewaunee Nuclear Generating Plant during the validation week.

In order to meet this schedule, your staff must furnish the reference materials identified in NUREG 1021, ES-201, Attachment 2, no later than March 15, 2003. 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 is 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. S. Johnson 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. C. Phillips at 630-829-9739, or me at 630-829-9631.

In accordance with 10 CFR Part 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure 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/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Sincerely,

/RA/

Roger D. Lanksbury, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No. 50-305
License No. DPR-43

cc w/encl: D. Graham, Director, Bureau of Field Operations
Chairman, Wisconsin Public Service Commission
State Liaison Officer
Kevin Davison, Training Manager

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