



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

December 22, 1997

MEMORANDUM TO: Carl J. Paperiello, Director  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

FROM: Charles L. Cain, Chairman *Joseph J. Holonich for*  
Inspector Qualification Board  
Region IV

D. Blair Spitzberg, Board Member *Joseph J. Holonich for*  
Inspection Qualification Board  
Region IV

Joseph J. Holonich, Board Member *Joseph J. Holonich*  
Inspection Qualification Board  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and  
Safeguards

SUBJECT: QUALIFICATION BOARD RECOMMENDATION FOR  
KENNETH R. HOOKS

On December 12, 1997, a review was conducted of the individual's training journal as completed, and an oral qualification board was convened to examine Kenneth R. Hooks as a uranium recovery inspector. The Uranium Recovery Branch (URB) considers that Mr. Hooks has completed all the necessary training qualification cards in IM Chapter 1246. For the qualification cards dealing with basic administrative aspects of the agency, and general knowledge of Waste Management regulations, guidance, and licensing activities, URB has recommended that Mr. Hooks be grandfathered given that he has over 10 years of service with NRC, including 8 years in Waste Management as a project manager dealing directly with these aspects of the program. We agree with this recommendation. Therefore, completion of the training journal focused on qualification cards 5 (NRC Inspection Manual), 7 (Inspection Accompaniments), and 11 (Formal Training).

As a result of the qualification board examination, it is our conclusion that Mr. Hooks has satisfactorily demonstrated the knowledge and qualification skills required for the respective disciplines and is, consequently, eligible for inspector certification. There are two areas in which we recommend Mr. Hooks enhance his knowledge. These are: 1) the agency enforcement policy; and 2) the health impacts from exposure to uranium. During the qualification board examination, Mr. Hooks demonstrated a basic knowledge in these areas sufficient to justify qualification. However, the board believes it would benefit Mr. Hooks to strengthen his knowledge in these areas.

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Attached is a memorandum from you, approving Mr. Hooks' qualification, if you agree with the board's recommendation. A general practice in the region is to have the Regional Administrator conduct a certification interview with the candidate. You may want to consider a similar approach if you would like to independently confirm the board's recommendation.

Attachment: As stated

cc: E. Merschoff, RIV-RA  
W. Kane, NMSS  
R. Scarano, RIV-DNMS  
J. Greeves, DWM  
D. Gillen, URB  
K. Hooks, URB  
Board Members

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NAME	JHofonich		BSpitzberg		CCain				
DATE	12/2/97		12/2/97		12/2/97		1/97		1/97

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