

RulemakingComments Resource

From: Curtis Sharpe <curtislarpe@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 31, 2013 11:42 PM
To: RulemakingComments Resource
Subject: Docket ID NRC-2013-0024
Attachments: image2013-05-31-150517.pdf

Signed copy of email sent 05/30/13 from IBEW LU 721

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers



Local 721
Chattanooga, TN

May 28th, 2013

Annette L. Vietti-Cook
Secretary of the Commission
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington DC 20555-0001

Re: Docket ID NRC-2013-0024

Dear Ms. Vietti-Cook,

My name is Curtis Sharpe. I am the President /Business Manager of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 721. IBEW Local 721 based out of Chattanooga TN, represents approximately 420 members. The membership is primarily made of people working in the following classifications: Electricians, Operators, Instrument Mechanics and other multi skilled classifications in support of electrical generation for the Tennessee Valley Authority. IBEW Local 721 jurisdiction supports many power generation facilities, including the Sequoyah Nuclear Plant and the yet to be completed Bellefonte Nuclear Plant.

I have shared the NEI petition with the membership. After a review and comment period, the body of the local is of the unanimous opinion that adopting the NEI proposal would be unjust. Never in the history of IBEW local 721 has a member had his or her access reinstated through the Independent Denial Review process afforded by the licensee. Only through the process of appeal to an impartial referee has an employee had his or her unescorted access authorization reinstated. This process of appeal to an impartial referee (arbitration) afforded through our Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) is jointly negotiated by the Tennessee Valley Authority (licensee) and the Trades and Labor Council for Annual Employees of the Tennessee Valley Authority. If either party wishes to strike this appeal process from the CBA they have that right through the process of contract negotiations. The terms of the CBA are established through collective

bargaining and should remain so. The protections afforded the employee through this process should not be restricted by regulations imposed by the NRC. The IBEW is committed to protecting each and every employee's security and safety, as well as the public's. History has shown that we have done this without compromise. Although an employee has never had their unescorted access reinstated by the independent review process provided by the licensee, we have had both denial and reinstatement decisions through the process of arbitration. I liken this to the judicial process afforded all United States citizens. This judicial process protected by the Sixth Amendment of the Constitution insures the accused the right to a trial by impartial jury, the right to be informed of the nature of the accusation, and the right to obtain witnesses in their favor with the assistance of counsel for defense. Also, employees are confronted with witnesses against them. The licensee independent review process affords none of this. Simply put, the independent review process would be paramount to *the fox minding the hen house*.

Impacts of the restrictions proposed by NEI are far reaching and could potentially amount to career death penalty. Without the option for impartial review, job loss is all but guaranteed, if history is any indication. The loss of one's unescorted access severely limits or ends one's opportunities to engage in and enjoy those privileges long recognized as essential to the pursuit of happiness: home ownership, child rearing, etc. Please consider seriously the effects the removal of impartial review would have on the employees working daily to maintain the quality of life that the electrical generation industry has on all our lives.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Curtis Sharpe', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Curtis Sharpe
President/Business Manager: IBEW LU 721
304 Laurel Ave.
South Pittsburg TN 37380

Phone: 423-309-0233

RulemakingComments Resource

From: Curtis Sharpe [curtislarpe@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, May 31, 2013 12:19 AM
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curtissharpe@gmail.com