



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION I
2100 RENAISSANCE BLVD., SUITE 100
KING OF PRUSSIA, PA 19406-2713

May 28, 2015

Mr. John Dent, Jr.
Site Vice President
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station
600 Rocky Hill Road
Plymouth, MA 02360-5508

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION REVIEW OF A PROPOSED
SENIOR OPERATOR APPLICANT AT PILGRIM NUCLEAR POWER STATION

Dear Mr. Dent:

The purpose of this letter is to answer your correspondence number (2.15.004) in which you requested an early evaluation of the qualifications of a proposed Senior Operator (SRO) applicant.

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has, until recently, solicited such early evaluation requests to avoid the potential for last minute waiver processing or application denials. However, due to the resolution of a recent legal case, the NRC is no longer able to provide such early evaluation. The NRC cannot make a determination on an operator license application until the application is actually submitted to the NRC in accordance with 10 CFR 55.31.

The NRC will approve an initial application for a SRO license if it finds that the application satisfies the requirements of 10 CFR 55.31(a) that the applicant's medical condition and general health satisfy 10 CFR 55.33, and that the applicant has passed the requisite written examination and operating test. However, the NRC cannot evaluate any aspect of an application before the application is actually submitted to the NRC. Consequently, the NRC cannot provide a determination on a hypothetical SRO license application with the qualifications described in your letter.

J. Dent

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These issues were discussed in a telephone conversation with Mr. Charles McDonald, Training Manager, on May 18, 2015. If you have any questions on this matter, please contact me at (610)337-5306.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Donald E. Jackson, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No. 50-293
License No. DPR-35

J. Dent

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