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AUTH. NAME AUTHOR AFFILIATION
GALLO, R.M. Region 1, Ofc of the Director
RECIP. NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
BURKHARDT, L. Niagara Mohawk Power Corp.

SUBJECT: Forwards Regualification Remediation Exam Rept 50-410/89-18
(OL) administered during wks of 890717, 24 & 31.

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NOV 18 1989

Docket Nos. 50-410

Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
ATTN: Mr. Lawrence Burkhardt, III
Executive Vice President
Nuclear Operations
301 Plainfield Road
Syracuse, New York 13212

Gentlemen:

Subject: REQUALIFICATION REMEDIATION EXAMINATIONS
REPORT NO. 50-410/89-18 (OL)

During the week of September 18, 1989, the NRC administered requalification re-examinations to licensed operators of Nine Mile Nuclear Station, Unit 2, who had failed sections of requalification exams given during the weeks of July 17, July 24, and July 31, 1989. Examinations were administered in accordance with Revision 5 to NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examiner Standards," specifically, ES-601, "Administration of NRC Requalification Program Evaluations." As the purpose of the re-examination was strictly to evaluate operator competency, no formal re-evaluation was made of the facility's requalification training program. Another assessment of the requalification program will be conducted at a future date. Until such time, the program is still judged as being unsatisfactory.

Generic findings and preliminary results of the operating exams were discussed with you and your staff at the exit meeting held September 21, 1989.

NRC results indicate that two of two crews passed the simulator section of the exam. Additionally, six of six senior reactor operators (SROs) and six of seven reactor operators (ROs) passed all sections of their re-examination.

Section 4 of this report discusses our review of your responses to our concerns with your initial Requalification Action Plan. Generally, your responses are acceptable. However, in responding to NRC Concern 8, you do not address why your Quality Assurance Program, an independent assessment method which is already in place, was not a factor in detecting problems with your requalification program. You are requested to review this question and respond to the NRC within 30 days of receipt of this letter.

The response requested by this letter is not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, PL-96-511.

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PDR ADOCK 05000410
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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the Commission regulations, a copy of this letter and the enclosure will be placed in the NRC Public Docket Room.

Should you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Mr. Richard Conte at (215) 337-5210.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

Robert M. Gallo, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Enclosure:

Operator Licensing Re-examination Results and Report No. 50-410/89-18 (OL)

Attachments:

- Attachment 1, Persons Contacted
- Attachment 2, Qualification Examination Test Items
- Attachment 3, Licensee Letter, dated September 13, 1989, from L. Burkhardt to W. Russell, USNRC, enclosing potential causes for NRC concerns with NMP Qualification Program Action Plan
- Attachment 4, Licensee Letter, dated September 29, 1989, from L. Burkhardt to W. Russell, USNRC, enclosing proposed shift staffing changes

cc w/enclosures:

C. V. Mangan, Senior Vice President
D. Palmer, Acting Manager, Quality Assurance
W. Hansen, Manager, Corporate Quality Assurance
R. G. Smith, Unit 2 Superintendent, Operations
C. Beckman, Manager, Nuclear Quality Assurance Operations
R. B. Abbott, Unit 2 Station Superintendent
J. Perry, Vice President, Quality Assurance
K. Dahlberg, Unit 1 Station Superintendent
R. Randall, Unit 1 Superintendent, Operations
J. Willis, General Station Superintendent
C. Terry, Vice President Nuclear Engineering and Licensing
J. F. Warden, New York Consumer Protection Branch
Connor & Wetterhahn
Troy B. Conner, Jr., Esquire
Gary D. Wilson, Senior Attorney
John W. Kejb, Esquire
Director, Power Division, Department of Public Service, State of New York
State of New York, Department of Law
Licensing Project Manager, NRR



Niagara Mohawk Power Corp.

3

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Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)

J. Dyer, EDO

DRP Section Chief

OL Files

R. Barkley, Reactor Engineer, DRP

bcc w/enclosure; w/o Attachments 1-4

DRS Files (2)

bcc w/o enclosures; w/o Attachments 1-4

Management Assistant, DRMA

DRS:RI
Fish/ajk
11/2/89

PULLANI

11/3/89

TF

[Signature]

for R. Conk

DRS:RI
Galvo
11/6/89

~~DRP:RI
Barkley
11/ /89~~

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