May 11, 1999

Mr. James G. Burton Manager - Nuclear Training Department Niagara Mohawk Training Center 450 Lake Road Oswego, NY 13126

Dear Mr. Burton:

On April 7, 1999, the NRC administered a generic fundamentals examination (GFE) section of the written operating licensing examination to employees of your facility. Five of the twenty employees from your organization who took the examination failed. This is a relatively high failure rate.

Enclosed with this letter are copies of both forms of the examination, including answer keys, the grading results for your facility, and copies of the individual answer sheets for each of your employees. Please forward the results to the individuals along with the copies of their answer sheets. A "P" in the column labeled <u>RESULTS</u> indicates a passing grade of 80 per cent or better on the GFE. Those individuals having an "F" in the <u>RESULTS</u> column failed the examination.

Also, in light of the high failure rate for your facility, we request that you review the results of the exam and inform us within 60 days of the cause and the corrective actions taken or planned. This was discussed with Mr. Reed of your staff on May 4, 1999.

If you have any questions concerning the examination, please contact Mr. Ivan Kingsley at 203-442-4355, Ext.451, or, about the request, please contact me at 610-337-5183.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Richard J. Conte, Chief Human Performance and Emergency Preparedness Branch Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-220/410

Enclosures:

- 1. Examination Form "A" and Form "B" with answers
- 2. Examination Results Summary for Nine Mile
- 3. Individual Answer Sheets

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Mr. James G. Burton, Jr.

cc w/o enclosures:

- J. H. Mueller, Chief Nuclear Officer
- G. Wilson, Esquire
- M. Wetterhahn, Winston and Strawn
- J. Rettburg, New York State Electric and Gas Corporation
- P. Eddy, Electric Division, Dept. of Public Service, State of New York
- C. Donaldson, Esquire, Assistant Attorney General, New York Department of Law
- J. Vinquist, MATS, Inc.
- F. Valentino, President, New York Energy Research and Development Authority
- J. Spath, Program Director, New York State Energy Research And Development Authority PUBLIC

/o enclosures: Master GFE File

DOCUMENT NAME: P:\nmgferes.wpd

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