

DCD

November 21, 1997

Mr. J. S. Perry  
Site Vice President  
Dresden Nuclear Power Station  
Commonwealth Edison Company  
6500 North Dresden Road  
Morris, IL 60450

SUBJECT: NRC INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSING EXAMINATION REPORTS  
50-237/97304(OL); 249/97304(OL) AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Perry:

On August 6, 1997, the NRC completed initial operator licensing examinations at the Dresden Station. Examination results were finalized on September 10, 1997. A re-exit by telephone was conducted on November 14, 1997. The enclosed report presents the results of that examination.

One previously licensed reactor operator and three individuals not previously licensed at Dresden station were administered senior reactor operator examinations. Three non-licensed station operators were administered reactor operator examinations. All applicants demonstrated satisfactory performance in all examination areas. One senior reactor operator applicant not previously licensed was issued a reactor operator license based on NRC review of eligibility requirements. One reactor operator applicant was not issued a license based on termination of employment at Dresden Station subsequent to the examination. All other applicants were issued licenses commensurate with their administered reactor operator or senior reactor operator examinations.

Applicant performance on the written examination and job performance tasks was good. Overall crew communications and command and control during administration of dynamic simulator scenario emergency procedures were good. However, NRC examiners identified instances where individuals failed to follow procedures and were inattentive to detail during the normal, abnormal, and emergency events. Examiners also identified weaknesses and inconsistencies in procedures, and a comparatively large number of simulator fidelity issues. The weaknesses in the station's procedures and the simulator problems may explain some of the observed applicant performance weaknesses.

Selected members of the operations and training departments performed a detailed review of the written examination and identified technical errors. The rigor applied toward review and validation of the written examination was not applied to other areas of examination validation.

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One violation was identified for improper identification of retired plant equipment. This violation is cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice) and the circumstances are described in detail in the subject inspection report. The violation consists of a failure to follow station procedures for addressing retired plant equipment. The NRC has concluded that the reason for the violation, the corrective actions taken, and actions taken to prevent recurrence, were adequately addressed by station personnel. Therefore, you are not required to respond to the violation unless the description herein does not accurately reflect your corrective actions or your position. In that case, or if you choose to provide additional information, you should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the Commission's regulations, a copy of this letter, the enclosures, and your response to this letter will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

We will gladly discuss any questions you have concerning this inspection.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by John M. Jacobson (for)

John A. Grobe, Director  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-237; 50-249  
License Nos. DPR-19; DPR-25

- Enclosures:
1. Notice of Violation
  2. Report Nos. 50-237/97304(OL); 50-249/97304(OL)
  3. Written Examinations and Answer Keys
  4. Facility Comments
  5. NRC Resolution of Facility Comments
  6. Simulation Facility Report

See Attached Distribution

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