

*Central Files*

MAR 20 1980

Mr. H. J. Midura, Manager  
Salem Generating Station  
Public Service Electric & Gas Co.  
P. O. Box 168  
Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey 08038

Dear Mr. Midura:

The following information is being provided in answer to the questions contained in your letter of January 25, 1980.

1. When an operator licensed to operate one unit of a two unit facility applies for a license on the second unit, he will be required to take both an oral and written examination on the second unit. If he scores less than 80% overall or less than 70% in a category on the written examination; or fails the oral examination, his application will be denied. He may file new application after two months from the date of denial in accordance with Section 55.12(a) of 10 CFR 55. Successful completion of the examination administered after re-application, would result in our issuing an amended license valid for both units.

There is no automatic effect on his license for the first unit; however, following notification of the failure, we would expect the facility management to remove the person from licensed activities and to commence accelerated requalification until satisfactory qualification has been demonstrated. If the facility management does not take such action, NRC will consider further action on its part.

2. A licensed operator who takes the written and oral senior operator examinations and fails either or both, will not normally have his operators' license suspended or invalidated. Where the examination results indicate extremely serious deficiencies case by case determinations will be made regarding suspension of the operator license. This review will be done by us; we expect that the utility would also perform such a review.
3. Under the regulations, each examination and reexamination consists of both written and operating tests. The Commission has the authority, to excuse part of the reexamination if sufficient justification is presented. A request to be excused may be made at the time of reapplication. Based on the information submitted and that contained in the individual's docket, we will make a determination regarding waiver of portions of the examination.

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I hope this information will be of help to you.

Sincerely,

Paul F. Collins; Chief  
Operator Licensing Branch  
Division of Project Management

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