

TERA (2)



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

JUL 08 1980

Docket No. 50-266 & 301

Mr. Sol Burstein  
Executive Vice President  
Wisconsin Electric Power Company  
231 West Michigan Street  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201

Dear Mr. Burstein:

Your June 4, 1980 letter requested information and clarification pertaining to our new requirement that applicants for operator and senior operator licenses spend three months on shift as an extra man in training.

On July 30, 1979, the staff submitted a paper for Commission Action, SECY-79-330E, entitled, "Qualifications of Reactor Operators". The paper described the present mode of operations, answered GAO questions regarding the operator licensing program and made 16 recommendations for improvements to the operator licensing program. The Commission adopted the recommendations with some modifications.

One recommendation was to require three months continuous training as an extra man on shift in the control room for operator applicants and three months training as an extra man on shift for a senior operator applicant. This recommendation was made because members of the Operator Licensing Branch had been observing a lack of familiarity with the control room, location of instruments and controls and location and use of control room reference material by many applicants. In many cases, this lack of familiarity was considered deficient enough to deny the application. In our review of the operator licensing program, we determined that this weakness could be minimized by requiring more time in training in the control room. Hence, we would significantly improve the qualifications of operators and senior operators. The Commission approved this recommendation.

We do not envision the trainee "sitting on a stool in an out-of-the-way corner of the control room" as indicated in your letter. Your attention is invited to Section 55.9(b) of 10 CFR Part 55 that permits an applicant to manipulate the controls of the facility as part of his training.

We cannot permit a variance to this three month continuous training requirement, or any other recently adopted requirement, regarding operators and senior operators at this time.

8007240 085

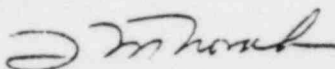


Mr. Sol Burstein

-2-

We hope this information will be of use to you. If you desire further information, please contact us.

Sincerely,



Thomas M. Novak, Assistant Director  
for Operating Reactors  
Division of Licensing

cc:  
See next page

Mr. Sol Burstein  
Wisconsin Electric Power Company

cc: Mr. Bruce Churchill, Esquire  
Shaw, Pittman, Potts and Trowbridge  
1800 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20036

Document Department  
University of Wisconsin  
Stevens Point Library  
Stevens Point, Wisconsin 54481

Mr. Glenn A. Reed, Manager  
Nuclear Operations  
Wisconsin Electric Power Company  
Point Beach Nuclear Plant  
6610 Nuclear Road  
Two Rivers, Wisconsin 54241

Walter L. Myer  
Town Chairman  
Town of Two Creeks  
Route 3  
Two Rivers, Wisconsin 54241

Chairman  
Public Service Commission of Wisconsin  
Hill Farms State Office Building  
Madison, Wisconsin 53702

Ms. Kathleen M. Falk  
General Counsel  
Wisconsin's Environmental Decade  
302 E. Washington Avenue  
Madison, Wisconsin 53703

Director, Technical Assessment Division  
Office of Radiation Programs (AW-459)  
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Crystal Mall #2  
Arlington, Virginia 20460

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Federal Activities Branch  
Region V Office  
ATTN: EIS COORDINATOR  
230 S. Dearborn Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60604