

N. W. File
T-4(2)
"B&W-NPSS"

Babcock & Wilcox

Boiler Division

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May 2, 1968

RDT:PM:C195

Mr. A. Giambusso
Assistant Director for Project Management
Division of Reactor Development and Technology
United States Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D. C. 20545

Dear Mr. Giambusso:

The Babcock & Wilcox Company appreciates the concern expressed by the Atomic Energy Commission for the early development by utilities of technical and managerial capability necessary for management and operation of nuclear facilities.

The B&W Company has a like concern in assuring that proper facilities and training personnel are available to meet these needs and that proper manning and training philosophy is followed by utilities engaged in or planning the construction of nuclear plants. Our training objectives are to foster safe operation and promote reliable and efficient power generation. B&W has developed a comprehensive training program designed to meet all the needs of a utility. This comprehensive program provides training for management, engineering and operating staff personnel and is available in whole or in part to B&W customers and other utilities. It makes use of B&W and University facilities and staffs.

We are pleased to respond to the questions contained in your letter of April 1 and discussed with Mr. Marshall Ray on April 10.

- a. The anticipated number of utility personnel requiring reactor operating experience or equivalent whose training will be a responsibility of the Babcock & Wilcox Company under contractual arrangements is as follows:

<u>Training Year</u>	<u>Men</u>
1968	0
1969	0
1970	7
1971	36
1972	36
1973	48
1974	48

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Reactor operating experience will be also required by Babcock & Wilcox customers for the training of 12 operators in 1968 and 12 in 1969, but this training is not a contractual obligation of B&W.

- b. Requisite operating experience will be obtained at the Saxton Nuclear Station during calendar years 1968 and 1969. Commencing in 1970 requisite experience will be provided by B&W through the ownership and operation of a nuclear power station simulator supplemented by an existing research reactor.
- c. Current experience indicates that trainee assignment at an operating reactor facility should be for a period of six months to achieve the desirable experience level in actual plant operation.
- d. The B&W Company is currently planning the construction of a Nuclear Power Station Simulator. This facility will be available for utility use by June 1970, and will have a minimum training capacity of 96 inexperienced trainees per year. The B&W simulator will be available to any utility desiring to use it. Simulator training, in combination with the Lynchburg Pool Reactor for actual reactor startups, will entirely eliminate the need for trainees to operate a power reactor. We understand that the AEC will require a period of observation at an operating nuclear power station to complement this training program. The observation training will not require the trainees to operate the plant, and hence will not impose a generating limitation on the operating utility. With a proper training program and a well designed, properly operated simulator we believe that the observation period can eventually be reduced or eliminated ← New without compromise to the competence of the operators.

We believe the other major reactor manufacturers are offering similar training programs for utility customers. There appears to be no need for the Commission to provide any of the required training services. Adequate facilities and programs are available through the industry sector, in conjunction with universities, to supply all utility training needs.

We will be happy to provide you with additional information on B&W training programs and facilities, including the simulator, and to meet with you for further discussions. We are particularly interested in lending appropriate assistance to the AEC to provide industry input in carrying out the action program described in the attachment to your letter.

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Thank you for the opportunity to explain the B&W position on this vital matter.

Sincerely,



J. C. Daddens
Manager, Service Section

JCD/cej

CC: W. H. Rowand