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POLICY ISSUE
(Information)

SECY-89-264

August 28, 1989

For: The Commissioners

From: James M. Taylor
Acting Executive Director for Operations

Subject: QUARTERLY STATUS REPORT ON THE NRC REQUALIFICATION PROGRAM

Purpose: To provide a quarterly status report of the NRC requalification program as requested by the Commission in a memorandum dated June 9, 1988, from Chairman Zech to the EDO.

Discussion: The revised NRC requalification program pilot, tested from December 1987 to June 1988 and described in Examiner Standard ES-601, was implemented on October 1, 1988. Comments from the pilot program were incorporated into the final program after review by a panel consisting of regional examiner supervisors and an Operator Licensing Branch section chief. There have been no significant changes to the program presented to the Commission at the briefing of May 10, 1989.

This report summarizes the status of the NRC-administered requalification examinations and requalification program evaluations since October 1988. The experience gained since the implementation of this program indicates that the program objectives of (1) implementing a process that meets the requirements of 10 CFR 55.57(b)(2)(iv), (2) providing the staff with an assessment of the effectiveness of the facilities' requalification training programs, and (3) minimizing the potential for adverse impact on the safe operations of facilities have been achieved. "Administration of NRC Requalification Program Evaluations," ES-601, is fully implemented and operational in all five regions.

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The requalification program results for each facility at which NRC conducted a requalification examination are provided in the Enclosure. A summary of the requalification program results is given below.

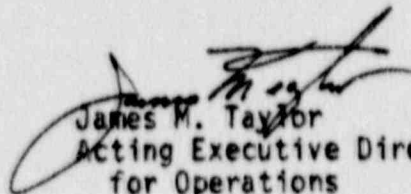
REQUALIFICATION PROGRAM RESULTS SUMMARY

<u>Facilities Examined</u>	<u>Candidates Examined</u>	<u>Candidates Passed/Failed</u>	<u>Programs SAT/UNSAT*</u>
28	429	354/75	22/5

* One facility did not have a large enough sample size to determine a program evaluation.

The summary figures and comments from the examiners indicate that the program in place is able to discriminate between weak and competent operators and satisfactory and unsatisfactory requalification training programs. Eleven additional facilities are scheduled to have requalification examinations by October 1, 1989. That will bring the total number of facilities at which examinations have been conducted this fiscal year to 39, which represents approximately 35 percent of the facility licensees and about 10 percent of the licensed reactor operators. The staff's plan has been to administer requalification examinations to 10 percent of the licensed reactor operators in FY89.

The Commission requested quarterly status reports on the NRC requalification program until such time as it is running smoothly. The staff believes the program is fully implemented and running smoothly, therefore, future quarterly reports are not planned.


James M. Taylor
Acting Executive Director
for Operations

Enclosure:

1. Requalification Program Results

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EnclosureREQUALIFICATION PROGRAM RESULTS
(October 1988 - August 1989)

<u>Facility Examined</u>	<u>Candidates Examined</u>	<u>Candidates Passed/Failed</u>	<u>Failed Written/Operating</u>	<u>Program Sat/Unsat</u>
Limerick 1	13	12/1	0/1	SAT
Susquehanna	16	15/1	0/1	SAT
Fitzpatrick	12	12/0	0/0	SAT
Hope Creek	14	12/2	1/1	SAT
Nine Mile Pt. 2	29	19/10	8/8	UNSAT
GINNA	12	6/6	0/6	UNSAT
Beaver Valley 1	12	11/1	1/1	SAT
Indian Pt. 2	12	10/2	1/2	SAT
Haddam Neck	12	11/1	1/0	SAT
Maine Yankee	12	12/0	0/0	SAT
Yankee Roe	12	9/3	1/3	SAT
Summer	24	21/3	2/1	SAT
Turkey Pt.	24	12/12	6/11	UNSAT
Farley	22	17/5	4/2	SAT
Browns Ferry	24	15/9	6/4	UNSAT
Braidwood	12	11/1	0/1	SAT
Kewaunee	12	11/1	0/1	SAT
Monticello	15	12/3	2/1	SAT
Palisades	8	8/0	0/0	NOTE 1
Perry	12	11/1	1/0	SAT
Point Beach	12	7/5	5/0	UNSAT

Quad Citier	12	11/1	1/0	SAT
LaSalle	15	14/1	0/1	SAT
Ft. Calhoun	5	4/1	1/0	SAT (Note 2)
ANO 1	12	10/2	2/0	SAT
Comanche Peak	12	12/0	0/0	SAT
Palo Verde	16	15/1	0/1	SAT
Diablo Canyon	36	34/2	1/1	SAT

NOTE 1: Program evaluation deferred until sample size meets the guidance of Examiner Standard ES-601. (12 operators).

NOTE 2: Sample size for program evaluation was 13 based on 8 operators examined in March and May 1988 during the pilot program and 5 operators in May 1989.