



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

FDR

AUG 25 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR: Robert B. Minogue, Director, Office of Standards
Development

FROM: Harold R. Denton, Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor
Regulation

SUBJECT: PROPOSED RULEMAKING, "QUALIFICATIONS OF REACTOR OPERATORS".

We have reviewed the proposed changes to 10 CFR Part 55 and offer the following comments:

We believe that provisions should be made for phasing in the administration of NRC simulator examinations in the same manner as the rule change phases in NRC administration of the requalification examinations.

We have administered some simulator examinations and plan to continue increasing the number of simulator examinations, we are also developing plans to administer examinations to all applicants. However, our resources are limited, as are the number of simulators. Consequently, we could not administer simulator examinations to all applicants immediately following the effective date of regulation.

Enclosure "A" page 1, Summary: The first sentence indicates we issue operating licenses to operators. The sentence should be changed to read: "...issuing a license to operators...".

We believe our comment regarding simulator examinations can be resolved during the public comment period. Therefore, we have concurred with this proposed rulemaking to permit early consideration by the Commission.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "H. R. Denton".

Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation