

APRIL 01 1982

Docket No. 50-298

Mr. J. M. Pilant, Director
Licensing & Quality Assurance
Nebraska Public Power District
P. O. Box 499
Columbus, Nebraska 68601



Dear Mr. Pilant

SUBJECT: NUREG-0737 ITEM I.A.1.1 SHIFT TECHNICAL ADVISOR (STA)

RE: Cooper Nuclear Station

As required by Item I.A.1.1 of NUREG-0660 and NUREG-0737, NRR conducted a post-implementation review of Shift Technical Advisor (STA) training programs. Our review, based on the information furnished in your response to NUREG-0737, including your submittal of February 3, 1982, is now completed.

We based our review on a determination of whether your response met the intent of guidelines given in the NRC's September 13, 1979 and October 30, 1979 letters. These letters provided guidance concerning the general technical education and training requirements for STAs. The October 30 letter specified that the STA shall have a bachelor's degree or equivalent in a scientific or engineering discipline. The September 13 letter provided guidance on STA training and qualification in three functional areas: General Technical Education, Reactor Operations Training and Transient and Accident Response Training.

Our review concluded that your STA training program is acceptable in meeting the intent of the guidelines set forth in the above referenced letters. However, you stated that your STA program includes candidates who do not hold a bachelor's degree. We realize that you have selected candidates who have considerable nuclear power plant operations experience and who hold a current SRO license. Further, it is evident that sufficient training has been provided to these individuals to meet the General Technical Education requirement. We do consider this extra experience and SRO license for the STA to be advantageous to plant safety.

We feel that the following individuals are acceptable as STAs:

Gary K. Adkins
Robert D. Black
Robert D. Creason
Marion F. Edgerton
James L. Peaslee

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It was our intent to have STAs with a bachelor's degree or the equivalent in a scientific or engineering discipline. For the interim, while NRC determines the future role of the STA in conjunction with upgraded operator qualifications, your STAs are acceptable.

You should be aware that new guidance from the Commission on shift staff qualifications may be forthcoming. While it is still unknown what qualifications the Commission will require in the control room, a person with an engineering degree on shift is being seriously considered.

This letter resolves Item I.A.1.1 of NUREG-0737 for Cooper except for the issuance of Technical Specifications which will be the subject of subsequent correspondence. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Original signed by
Domenic B. Vassallo, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #2
Division of Licensing

cc: See next page

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Mr. J. M. Pilant
Nebraska Public Power District

cc:

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