NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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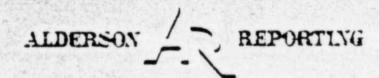
COMMISSION MEETING

In the Matter of: PUBLIC MEETING

BRIEFING ON MINIMUM NUMBER OF SHIFTS REQUIRED AT OPERATING REACTORS

DATE: July 21, 1982 PAGES: 1 - 43

AT: Washington, D. C.



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1	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
2	NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
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4	BRIEFING ON MINIMUM NUMBER OF SHIFTS
5	REQUIRED AT OPERATING REACTORS
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8	PUBLIC MEETING
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10	Nuclear Regulatory Commission
	Room 1130
11	1717 H Street, N. W. Washington, D. C.
12	washington, D. C.
12	Wednesday, July 21, 1982
13	
14	The Commission met, pu suant to notice, at
15	2:04 p.m.
16	
10	BEFORE:
17	
	NUNZIO PALLADINO, Chairman of the Commission
18	VICTOR GILINSKY, Commissioner
19	JOHN AHEARNE, Commissioner THOMAS ROBERTS, Commissioner
20	STAFF AND PRESENTERS SEATED AT COMMISSION TABLE:
21	SIAIT AND PROSENTENS SENTED AT CONSTRUCTION THE
7	S. CHILK
22	F. REMICK
	R. LEVI H. DENTON
23	J. ZWOLINSKI
24	J. KRAMER
25	전 10.00 전 10.0

DISCLAIMER

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Nuclear Regulatory Commission held on July 21, 1982 in the
Commission's offices at 1717 H Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. The
meeting was open to public attendance and observation. This transcript
has not been reviewed, corrected, or edited, and it may contain inaccuracies.

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- 2 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: With regard to the topic
- 3 scheduled for this afternoon, the Commission meets to
- 4 receive a briefing from the staff on the minimum number
- 5 of shifts required at operating reactors.
- 6 Currently the Commission has no specific
- 7 regulations that require a minimum number of shifts at
- 8 operating reactors. However, the Nuclear Regulatory
- 9 Commission has issued regulatory guidance that has an
- 10 indirect impact on the number of shifts required, such
- 11 as guidance on training programs and the use of
- 12 overtime. The staff will provide recommendations on the
- 13 question of the minimum number of shifts.
- 14 For this meeting the Commissioners have agreed
- 15 to try a different approach than that normally used. We
- 16 will attempt to listen to the staff's briefing without
- 17 interruption, except for questions of fact.
- 18 (Laughter.)
- 19 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: After the staff has
- 20 concluded the formal presentation, of course the meeting
- 21 will be open to questions from the Commissioners.
- Now unless any of my fellow Commissioners have
- 23 additional remarks ---
- 24 (Laughter.)
- 25 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: Wasn't there another

- 1 factor in that the staff agreed to limit its
- 2 presentation.
- 3 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: Oh, yes, to 30 minutes.
- 4 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Thirty minutes!
- 5 (Laughter.)
- 6 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: I think they are going to
- 7 be more brief.
- 8 We also had as a condition of this that we
- 9 start on time and we end on time.
- 10 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: And the staff would
- 11 restrict its presentation to a fixed period of time.
- 12 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: Thirty minutes at most.
- 13 You are free to be briefer.
- 14 (Laughter.)
- 15 MR. DENTON: I don't think we will exceed the
- 16 30 minutes, Mr. Chairman.
- 17 There have been some significant changes in
- 18 the handouts that we had previously given you. John
- 19 Zwolinski on my right will make the presentation, and to
- 20 my left is Joel Kramer, the Assistant Division Director.
- 21 We have established that there will be no
- 22 utility with less than five shifts in operation by the
- 23 end of 1982. So based on our most recent finding of
- 24 that, we will not be recommending any change in our
- 25 present practice considering that those number of shifts

- 1 in combination with our requirements on overtime and
- 2 training ---
- 3 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: There is no
- 4 requirement on the number of shifts now, is there?
- 5 MR. DENTON: That is correct.
- 6 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Is that a factual
- 7 question?
- 8 (Laughter.)
- 9 MR. DENTON: I am getting into John's
- 10 presentation and I had best turn it over to him.
- 11 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: Well, why don't we give
- 12 him a chance to say it.
- 13 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: Go ahead, John.
- 14 MR. ZWOLINSKI: Correct, there is no
- 15 regulation.
- 16 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Thank you.
- 17 (Slide presentation.)
- 18 MR. ZWOLINSKI: Mr. Chairman and
- 19 Commissioners, as you know the staff has not developed a
- 20 paper on the subject of the number of shifts.
- 21 Therefore, in this area where most enjoy an opinion, I
- 22 have attempted to develop the facts regarding the number
- 23 of shifts. Based on my remarks and additional
- 24 discussion today, I trust the staff will be provided
- 25 firm guidance regarding this issue.

- As a means to introduce the subject, the
- 2 Commission has not in the past attempted to specify a
- 3 minimum number of operating shifts to be used at
- 4 commercial nuclear power plants. Rather, the emphasis
- 5 has been placed upon the number of operators per shift
- 6 in various operating modes, the requirements for
- 7 operator requalification training and more recently on
- 8 the need to control usage of overtime.
- 9 In practice these staff requirements have
- 10 effectively established the number of shifts that must
- 11 be utilized by a utility to operate the nuclear power
- 12 plant.
- 13 Four operating shifts are required in order to
- 14 allow 24-hour coverage by eight-hour shifts and provide
- 15 for days off, leave and illness. The need for operator
- 16 retraining requires additional licensed operators, in
- 17 addition to the four shift complement.
- 18 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: I have been in several
- 19 plants where people were working 12 hours a day, or at
- 20 least more than one plant.
- 21 MR. ZWOLINSKI: That is possible.
- 22 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: A factual question.
- 23 Does not 737 and its associated statements say 12 hours
- 24 is the upper limit?
- 25 MR. ZWOLINSKI: That is correct. Our overtime

- 1 statement talks of eight hours and then a maximum amount
- 2 of overtime of up to 12 hours with 72 hours for the work
- 3 week.
- By the time of the TMI-2 accident most
- 5 utilities were employing a five-shift rotation in order
- 6 to provide for adequate retraining time. The continuing
- 7 emphasis on working hour limitations and the more
- 8 stringent retraining requirements since TMI-2 have led
- 9 those utilities with newly licensed plants to adopt a
- 10 six-shift rotation scheme so that one full shift can be
- 11 devoted to retraining without the necessity of working
- 12 overtime. Other licensees are adopting a six-shift or
- 13 even seven-shift rotation in order to meet the various
- 14 staff requirements.
- 15 We have recently completed an industry
- 16 survey ---
- 17 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: I have got to raise a
- 18 point here. When we approved Salem, and I must say I
- 19 wasn't as aware of this problem at that time as I think
- 20 I am now, they were on three shifts, as I recall. Is
- 21 that not right?
- MR. DENTON: I don't recall the facts of
- 23 Salem. Our Standard Review Plan uses as a guide five
- 24 shifts and we have exercised flexibility.
- 25 What we are going to tell you today are the

- 1 results of a survey of all operating plants and where
- 2 they stand. There have been some exceptions for short
- 3 periods of time, such as strikes or storms or new
- 4 licensees who were not up to those standards, but we can
- 5 report today on what the experience is.
- 6 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: The reason I raise
- 7 this is because I think the picture that is getting
- 8 painted here is a rather more cheerful one than at least
- 9 the facts up to now warrant. It may well be that it is
- 10 getting corrected.
- 11 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: Why don't we go through
- 12 the results of the survey and I think that will answer
- 13 your question.
- MR. ZWOLINSKI: We have recently completed an
- 15 industry survey which indicates that all licensees will
- 16 have by the end of this calendar year five-shift
- 17 rotation schemes in place.
- 18 As Mr. Denton noted, our SRP Section 13.1.2
- 19 review procedures does indeed identify that the staff is
- 20 looking for five-shift rotation to be implemented. On
- 21 the NTOL's we have gone so far as to push for the six
- 22 shifts.
- 23 In past practice, and I think this will answer
- 24 one of your questions, Commissioner Gilinsky, we have
- 25 found a two-shift operation for start-up situations

- 1 where there has been the need for a large number of
- 2 licensed personnel to perform that function.
- 3 A three-shift operation is very typical for
- 4 refueling operations. We find as we go into the four,
- 5 five and six-shift rotational schemes retraining and
- 6 overtime are affected. The most shifts, the better the
- 7 retraining, the less overtime.
- 8 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: What do you mean by
- 9 "brief periods" in the first one?
- 10 MR. ZWOLINSKI: I am talking two to three to
- 11 four weeks.
- 12 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Let's see, where does
- 13 that happen? I didn't realize it was for that long.
- 14 This is for regular operation of a plant at full power?
- 15 MR. ZWOLINSKI: Your example of Salem, they
- 16 for a short period of time were on two shifts of 12
- 17 hours each.
- 18 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: They were on a strike?
- 19 MR. ZWOLINSKI: There was this strike, that
- 20 was one situation. But when you go back to when they
- 21 were initially licensed they were on a three-shift
- 22 rotation.
- 23 To the Salem question, there was not
- 24 sufficient licensed personnel at that time when they
- 25 were initially licensed.

- 1 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Harold earlier was
- 2 saying that there are certain circumstances where we
- 3 have had a smaller number of shifts, for example, at
- 4 start-up. Now it seems to me start-up is a time when
- 5 there are just a lot of things happening and it would be
- 6 the time when you don't want to ---
- 7 MR. ZWOLINSKI: Okay. The two-shift can be a
- 8 little bit of a misnomer. If I had six-shift rotation
- 9 in place, I would have three shifts working at one
- 10 period of time and three shifts working at the other
- 11 period of time. I need a large number of qualified
- 12 people at any given 12-hour increment.
- 13 COMMISSIONER AFEARNE: I would point our, Vic,
- 14 that some time ago we originally had a rule or a
- 15 proposed rule that would have restricted the amount of
- 16 time, and the Commission for a variety of reasons I
- 17 guess backed off of that and ended up with the 12
- 18 hours. There was a movement to try to restrict the
- 19 amount of time a person could work.
- 20 MR. DENTON: There was a problem in the first
- 21 few OL's with the number of shifts because we had made
- 22 these increases in overtime requirements and staffing,
- 23 but I don't think that is a problem in the current OL
- 24 vintages, such as Susquehanna or LaSalle or Southern Cal.
- 25 MR. ZWOLINSKI: That is correct. They were

- 1 all pretty much five and six shifts.
- 2 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: But you say that during
- 3 the refueling for nonpower operation, is that when the
- 4 three-shift operation is common?
- 5 MR. ZWOLINSKI: Most typically. There has
- 6 been, as Harold mentioned, the strikes. Recognize
- 7 during refueling you are going to longer hours. It is
- 8 is ten days to two weeks and the three-shift rotation
- 9 seems to have evolved.
- 10 If I can move along, there have been a number
- 11 of things that have driven the number of shifts, clearly
- 12 the three issues that we have identified on this slide.
- 13 In addition to that, there have been union agreements, a
- 14 career path, vacations, sick leave concerns, the issue
- 15 with respect to refueling and more recently the
- 16 requirement for the second SRO indeed may be driving the
- 17 industry to reduce the number of shifts over a very
- 18 short period of time.
- We in fact just recently queried Fort St.
- 20 Vrain and they were on six-shift rotation and with the
- 21 implementation of the second SRO had to back down to
- 22 five-shift rotation to accommodate the second SRO. We
- 23 feel that may be a small burp in the system.
- 24 The general effect of this that indeed most
- 25 utilities are committed to a five or more shift rotation.

- 1 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: What do you mean "are
- 2 committed to"? You mean they plan to?
- 3 MR. ZWOLINSKI: The results of our survey have
- 4 shown, and in fact it is the next slide, that
- 5 essentially all the utilities are on a five-shift
- 6 rotation working philosophy, except that there are
- 7 selected utilities that may have two or three operators
- 8 move along and they will have to adopt a modified
- 9 four-shift rotation.
- 10 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: Which plant is that
- 11 that had the three-shift rotation?
- 12 MR. ZWOLINSKI: I wanted to preface that. It
- 13 turns out that the three is no longer in existence. We
- 14 thought that was Fort St. Vrain and we got on the phone
- 15 and straightened that.
- 16 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: Where does Fort St. Vrain
- 17 come in now?
- 18 MR. ZWOLINSKI: They are down under five
- 19 shifts and planning for six shifts.
- 20 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: Should I cross out that
- 21 first one?
- 22 MR. ZWOLINSKI: Yes, you cross that out and
- 23 the 17 becomes 18 on the slide under "Number of
- 24 Facilities," and the 24 goes to 25.
- I thought the most impressive part of the

- 1 survey was the vast number of utilities that indeed are
- 2 committed to either five shifts or six shifts and even
- 3 headed toward seven shifts. That bottom one is
- 4 Fitzpatrick.
- Again, for those two that are on four shifts,
- 6 both of those are moving vigorously to indeed have five
- 7 shifts in place by the end of this year.
- 8 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: Which ones are those?
- 9 MR. ZWOLINSKI: They are North Anna and
- 10 McGuire.
- 11 What I have developed on the next slide are
- 12 the pros and cons that I felt would tend to drive either
- 13 the need for six shifts or five. I think the bottom
- 14 line to much of this is the need to assure retraining
- 15 and that the operators are not working an extensive
- 16 amount of overtime and that their vacations and sick
- 17 leave are addressed.
- 18 I think when you have the six-shift rotation
- 19 in place it allows for much better planning of outages.
- 20 We find that you would have additional licensed
- 21 personnel available to conduct your periodic test as
- 22 required by the technical specifications.
- 23 Selected cons of the six-shift, there is a
- 24 population out there of reactor operators that relies on
- 25 a measure of overtime as an addition to their pay check,

- 1 and we would reduce the amount of overtime with six
- 2 shifts in place.
- 3 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: What a minute, that is
- 4 an odd disadvantage for us to put forward.
- 5 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: But it was a major
- 6 disadvantage that was raised when we were debating
- 7 previously the length of maximum time you would be
- 8 allowed.
- 9 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Well, I still think it
- 10 is an old thing for us to be bringing up.
- 11 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: I agree. We shouldn't
- 12 have that as one of our factors of consideration.
- 13 MR. ZWOLINSKI: Well, we will scratch that one
- 14 off.
- 15 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: I mean it may very
- 16 well be that from the point of view of an individual
- 17 operator that is a disadvantage and he would like to
- 18 work as many hours as possible, but it seems to be
- 19 saying that we would like operators to work as many
- 20 hours as possible.
- 21 MR. DENTON: The pros and cons I think were
- 22 not just NRC cons, but how you perceive it would affect
- 23 opeations.
- 24 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Would you say that
- 25 operators would quit because they won't make as much

- 1 money as they expected to and therefore there won't be
- 2 enough operators, which I doubt.
- 3 MR. ZWOLINSKI: I am not sure I can make that
- 4 statement, Commissioner Gilinsky. The point was one of
- 5 affected the man's pay check. I will strike that from
- 6 my notes.
- 7 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: It is a morale factor.
- 8 MR. ZWOLINSKI: I think so.
- 9 There is one con that is not on the
- 10 viewgraph. If you have six-shift rotation, the operator
- 11 will be on shift in the control room about 50 percent of
- 12 his normal work year time.
- 13 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: Say that again?
- 14 MR. ZWOLINSKI: If you have the six-shift
- 15 rotation in place, the operator spends about half his
- 16 time in the control room. The other half is ---
- 17 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Half of the working
- 18 time.
- 19 MR. ZWOLINSKI: Half of his working time. The
- 20 other half would be in retraining, in his planned
- 21 vacations and the other shift is a relief shift in which
- 22 he is assisting your technical support group, for
- 23 example.
- On the five shifts the pros and cons, if you
- 25 assume that the five shifts are fully manned and there

- 1 are relief personnel ---
- 2 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Just to go back to
- 3 that previous one, you never put the fact that the
- 4 operators may make less money ---
- 5 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: On the six shift.
- 6 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: You said it may need
- 7 to attract more candidates into RO/SRO training
- 8 programs. I don't see that that is a con either. It
- 9 sounds to me like that may be a good thing.
- 10 MR. ZWOLINSKI: If I adopted a six shift over
- 11 a short period of time, what would evolve is that the
- 12 industry would use their trainers or their licensed
- 13 operators that are on the engineering staff to come in
- 14 and make up that shift. You may take away from some of
- 15 the other job activies that are needed to be
- 16 accomplished, and I don't think we want to detract from
- 17 retraining.
- 18 MR. DENTON: I think it is hard to find a
- 19 safety con for having six, seven or eight shifts. I
- 20 just come out that five shifts met all the
- 21 requirements. I don't want to stretch to find things
- 22 wrong with more than five shifts, but I would like to
- 23 turn the page and show that five shifts fully satisfy ---
- 24 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: In terms of costs and
- 25 benefits obviously it costs more money and that has got

- 1 to be taken into account.
- 2 MR. ZWOLINSKI: To the five shifts, again the
- 3 five-shift rotation allows for full shift coverage and a
- 4 full retraining program. What is required is a number
- 5 of relief personnel to fill in for what I had called
- 6 intangibles on the slide. I am talking about sick leave
- 7 or the vacation time.
- 8 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: What do you mean by
- 9 "use of training personnel to backfill operations"?
- 10 MR. ZWOLINSKI: If I have five shifts with no
- 11 relief personnel, and as the shift is beginning I find
- 12 that a man is not reporting to work, I typically go to
- 13 their training program and take a man out of training
- 14 and put his on the shift. It affects his retraining
- 15 program.
- 16 MR. DENTON: The ideal case I think would be
- 17 five shifts plus a few people who would be able to step
- 18 in the event that somebody on the normal four shifts was
- 19 not able to fill his normal slot. One way to do that
- 20 would be to have a sixth shift. Then you guarantee that
- 21 you always have five shifts plus one or two people who
- 22 don't normally work in this capacity.
- 23 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: Are you saying that the
- 24 principal of the sixth shift is to provide a float?
- 25 MR. ZWOLINSKI: Yes, you are covered at all

- 1 times and you do not detract from your retraining
- 2 program.
- 3 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: But in the absence of
- 4 that need to fill in an unexpected hole, doesn't the
- 5 five-shift cover the training program?
- 6 MR. DENTON: Five shifts provides four shifts
- 7 for the normal work and one shift being trained. So
- 8 then that meets the requirements.
- 9 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: So the extra people
- 10 above the five-shift are floaters to cover this
- 11 unexpected ---
- 12 MR. DENTON: --- vacancy. That is right.
- 13 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: But when you have six
- 14 shifts, does the six shift come in the rotation process?
- 15 MR. ZWOLINSKI: Yes, they do. The sixth shift
- 16 would be assigned to performing duties such as assisting
- 17 your technical support group at the plant and they would
- 18 perform other roles in assisting the training
- 19 organization.
- 20 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: Always or do they get
- 21 into the same cycle as one of the other five? Is there
- 22 enough rotation so that this sixth group or sixth shift
- 23 maintains its viability?
- 24 MR. ZWOLINSKI: Mr. Chairman, it is my
- 25 understanding that the four licensed operators when they

- 1 move off of their licensed duties in the control room
- 2 that they ion't work as a team of four people in support
- 3 of the engineering group, for example. They have
- 4 responsibilities that they carry.
- 5 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: Maybe there is more to
- 6 it, but so far it sounds like the Navy has its people
- 7 chip paint.
- 8 COMMISSIONER ROBERTS: I don't follow you.
- 9 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: Well, on shipboard
- 10 during lengthy periods when there is not too much to do
- 11 you have got to keep the crew busy because if the crew
- 12 isn't busy then they have got other kinds of morale
- 13 problems. So you have them chip the paint and then sand
- 14 it down and then repaint it and then chip the paint and
- 15 sand it down and repaint it.
- (Laughter.)
- 17 COMMISSIONER ROBERTS: I have a hard time with
- 18 that, John. I spent three years on a destroyer and I
- 19 don't agree with that.
- 20 (Laughter.)
- 21 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: This is purportedly a
- 22 carrier.
- 23 COMMISSIONER ROBERTS: I don't know anything
- 24 about carriers.
- 25 (Laughter.)

- 1 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: I don't think these
- 2 are factual questions.
- 3 (Laughter.)
- 4 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: You are right.
- 5 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: I was just concerned
- 6 that so far it really sounded like that sixth shift ---
- 7 COMMISSIONER ROBERTS: You are using a shift
- 8 meaning a team of people.
- 9 MR. ZWOLINSKI: Yes.
- 10 COMMISSIONER ROBERTS: Tell me what a shift is
- 11 as a period of work in hours.
- 12 MR. ZWOLINSKI: We have been using an
- 13 eight-hour period as the typical shift.
- 14 COMMISSIONER ROBERTS: Is that standard
- 15 practice?
- 16 MR. ZWOLINSKI: Yes.
- 17 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: Do we have any
- 18 requirement on that?
- 19 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: No.
- 20 MR. ZWOLINSKI: Not for the eight hours. We
- 21 have an overtime requirement.
- 22 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: Eventually I am going to
- 23 ask you to review what our requirements are so that we
- 24 can keep them in perspective.
- 25 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: I think there is

- 1 another factor which is that we are talking about how
- 2 much a plant budgets for, and they are not going to have
- 3 a full complement of operators at all times. People
- 4 come and go and various other factors. So that if you
- 5 are budgeting for six, you may end up with a full
- 6 complement for five. That is one of the things that
- 7 gets taken care of when you have six shifts. Then if
- 8 you are budgeting for five, you may end up with four as
- 9 a practical matter.
- 10 MR. DENTON: I was a little surprised by the
- 11- results, because, like you, I recall that they had
- 12 pretty skimpy staffing a while back and I am pleased to
- 13 see that everyone has actually moved as far as they
- 14 have. It looks like about half of the utilities on your
- 15 chart are moving towards six.
- 16 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: I agree. It looks
- 17 like a very much better situation than I must say I
- 18 expected.
- 19 MR. DENTON: I had not expected it to turn out
- 20 that favorable either.
- 21 MR. ZWOLINSKI: If I might move to the future
- 22 actions that the Commission might consider. I developed
- 23 this particular slide assuming that we had a lot of bad
- 24 actors, three and four-shift operations, and the
- 25 Commission might consider getting on with perhaps a

- 1 rulemaking or policymaking or what-have-you.
- I think the results of the survey compel me to
- 3 refocus again on three issues. It is the overtime, it
- 4 is the retraining and our licensed operator population,
- 5 our requirements now for the second SRO in the control
- 6 room.
- 7 I think the staff comes out very strongly in
- 8 favor of continuing our present practice, which would be
- 9 to accept the industry survey of the five and six-shift
- 10 rotational schemes as being an acceptable method to
- 11 operate power plants safely.
- 12 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Well, I must say I am
- 13 certainly pleased to see as many plants in that category
- 14 as there appear to be, but the question we have to deal
- 15 with is to what extent are we willing to permit a lower
- 16 number of shifts for whatever length of time is involved.
- 17 MR. ZWOLINSKI: Certainly is a strike
- 18 situation occurred at a power plant and it was not going
- 19 to be resolved in a short term, a month, for example,
- 20 and I assume we would be on a three-shift rotation, the
- 21 Commission may want to look at how long does one allow
- 22 that to progress without resolution. I didn't focus the
- 23 presentation on those types of abnormalities.
- 24 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: The overtime
- 25 restriction, it seems to me, doesn't amount to much.

- 1 What it comes down to is that the man in charge has got
- 2 to sign and approve overtime and when he need it he just
- 3 approves it.
- 4 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: Would it be helpful to
- 5 just review what constraints you have now on the
- 6 operators?
- 7 MR. DENTON: I think there are the three that
- 8 John mentioned. That is the overtime requirement ---
- 9 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: And nobody works more
- 10 than 12 hours in one continuous ---
- 11 MR. ZWOLINSKI: Correct, or 72 hours in a work
- 12 week.
- 13 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: Well, there are four,
- 14 at least as I am reading from 737.
- 15 MR. ZWOLINSKI: You have it in front of you.
- 16 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: Do you want to read them,
- 17 John?
- 18 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: Well the four are:
- 19 An individual should not be permitted to work
- 20 more than 12 hours straight, not including shift
- 21 turnover time.
- 22 Second, there should be a break of at least 12
- 23 hours which can include shift turnover time between all
- 24 work periods.
- 25 Third, an individual should not work more than

- 1 72 hours in any seven-day period.
- 2 Fourth, an individual should not be required
- 3 to work more than 14 consecutive days without having two
- 4 consecutive days off.
- 5 Then it goes on to say that deviation can be
- 6 authorized by the plant manager or his deputy.
- 7 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: And when they need
- 8 deviations they just authorize them.
- 9 MR. DENTON: I think we modified that since
- 10 that went out. This caused a great deal of comment.
- 11 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: This is the modified
- 12 version. There was a previous one, right, but it was
- 13 superseded.
- 14 MR. DENTON: That is one area for the need for
- 15 the training program to be an integral part for
- 16 operators as a second ---
- 17 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: How much time do they
- 18 spend in training? Is there any amount specified in
- 19 that?
- 20 MR. ZWOLINSKI: There is not a time specified
- 21 by the Commission. When the man sits for his
- 22 regualification exam and he doesn't do well, he is
- 23 certainly put into a number of one-week courses to get
- 24 him back up to an acceptable level. If he does poorly
- 25 on his exam, they will give him immediate courses and

- 1 take him off of shift work.
- 2 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: Do we have any feel on
- 3 the average for what fraction of time the people are
- 4 spending on training?
- 5 MR. DENTON: One shift is always in training.
- 6 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: So that is one-sixth.
- 7 MR. ZWOLINSKI: My understanding is it is
- 8 between one-fifth and one-sixth. So that would be
- 9 something like 20 percent. Now some utilities, if the
- 10 man scores 100 percent on his exam, still put him
- 11 through the retraining program to focus, not necessarily
- 12 on requalification issues, but on issues of the day that
- 13 have affected the nuclear power industry.
- 14 COMMISSIONER ROBERTS: Can you give me some
- 15 sort of feel on what sort of turnover there is, or can
- 16 you not make such a general statement?
- 17 MR. DENTON: We can. Do don't have anyone
- 18 from the Licensing Branch down here today that keeps
- 19 that type of statistics.
- 20 MR. KRAMER: We can get you that.
- 21 MR. REMICK: I have some statistics, it is
- 22 outdated now, but I remember back a few years ago when
- 23 Paul Collins gave a paper and I was surprised. For both
- 24 an RO and an SRO, the average tenure was about four
- 25 years. I ion't know if that has changed, but the

- 1 average tenure of an RO or SRO was about four years.
- 2 Now that meant that some of these people went on to
- 3 other positions, some RO's went on to SRO's and some
- 4 SRO's went on to management.
- 5 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: I have the same
- 6 recollection, it was a surprisingly high turnover.
- 7 MR. REMICK: Yes.
- 8 MR. DENTON: Then the third area, that is the
- 9 number of operators per shift, I think that is before
- 10 the Commission now.
- 11 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: Yes.
- 12 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Do you know the extent
- 13 to which plant managers have approved deviations from
- 14 those guidelines or requirements?
- 15 MR. DENTON: I don't know right off.
- 16 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: I don't think there is
- 17 any requirement. They are not required to notify us.
- 18 Is that something that is ever checked or verified?
- 19 MR. DENTON: There have been a couple of times
- 20 that I recall where the Regional Inspector would call
- 21 and we talked about what was going on, but it is more
- 22 that the IEE inspector would check it if there is a
- 23 problem. In things like the Salem case, it was a
- 24 regional decision that they were adequately covered. I
- 25 think by not having a requirement you give some

- 1 flexibility for handling these cases to make an on-site
- 2 judgment about the people there.
- 3 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: They are not required to
- 4 come back and report extended deviations from the
- 5 guidelines?
- 6 MR. DENTON: No.
- 7 This concludes our 30-minute presentation.
- 8 (Laughter.)
- 9 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: You know, that took only
- 10 30 minutes even with interruptions.
- 11 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: We have 286 in front of
- 12 us which is a rulemaking on staffing. To what extent do
- 13 you believe the utility industry's positions that you
- 14 have here would be modified by a choice of either of
- 15 these options? Is it independent?
- 16 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: That is an interesting
- 17 point because I thought a number of the utilities were
- 18 not going to staff up to the extent we recommended after
- 19 TMI for some time.
- 20 MR. DENTON: I think John mentioned that there
- 21 were indications that in order to come onboard with the
- 22 two SRS's, there were indications they were dropping the
- 23 number of shifts temporarily.
- 24 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: Right, and what I am
- 25 asking is that you have two options here that you lay

- 1 out particularly focused on the SRO, and depending on
- 2 which way the Commission comes, do you see that as
- 3 driving the utilities' commitment here? You have got
- 4 everybody by the end of this year will be at five and a
- 5 number you have saying that they are going towards six.
- 6 Your recommendation here in the paper, at least in the
- 7 charts, was that the Commission strongly endorsed going
- 8 towards six.
- 9 MR. DENTON: I would no longer support that
- 10 recommendation.
- 11 MR. ZWOLINSKI: It was just policy statement.
- 12 MR. DENTON: When we were talking about the
- 13 need for it, I wasn't sure what the results of the
- 14 survey would turn out to be, and I am really pragmatic
- 15 having seen the survey ---
- 16 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: But I think what you
- 17 are saying is that you are happy with the industry, the
- 18 bulk of them at five and some of them moving toward six,
- 19 and you are satisfied with that.
- 20 The point I am asking is that if we choose one
- 21 or the other of your options in this other paper, do you
- 22 think that that will affect where the industry is? Will
- 23 it lead, for example, to a number dropping back to four,
- 24 or would it reinstitute your recommendation of the
- 25 policy statement?

- MR. KRAMER: Commissioner Ahearne, we had not
- 2 considered that in the drafting of the proposed rules.
- 3 MR. ZWOLINSKI: I see the codifying of
- 4 SECY-82-286 as really the Commission endorsing the
- 5 second SRO and must of the industry has adopted that.
- 6 Now what we are trying to do is put it into the formal
- 7 rulemaking process rather than arm twisting and
- 8 technical specifications. This is cleaning up our act a
- 9 little bit.
- 10 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: Are you saying that it
- is at least your belief that if we went for the second
- 12 RO in the rule that wouldn't modify any of the utility
- 13 behavior?
- 14 MR. DENTON: Well, I think the response we
- 15 have gotten to the audit assumes that is what we were
- 16 going to do and that results in this temporary dip from
- 17 six to five.
- 18 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: I see.
- 19 MR. DENTON: It might perturb a few
- 20 individuals, but most eveybody seems to be adopting
- 21 their own preferred staffing plans that fully meet our
- 22 requirements.
- 23 MR. ZWOLINSKI: Clearly if the Commission
- 24 wanted six shifts and so stated, the industry would go
- 25 to its training people and engineering support people

- 1 that have licenses and form that sixth shift. The
- 2 licensed operator population is there at most facilities.
- 3 CHAIRNAN PALLADINO: Harold, the requirements
- 4 that we have now, do you feel that they meet the
- 5 objectives that the staff felt need to be met with
- 6 regard to having enough people without working them too
- 7 long?
- 8 MR. DENTON: I feel they are met in a
- 9 sufficiently large fraction of all cases out there that
- 10 we don't need to make a ruling. I can't guarantee that
- 11 tomorrow there won't be some ---
- 12 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Isn't that what rules
- 13 are for?
- 14 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: My point is if they met
- 15 these rules, would they have met all the objectives? If
- 16 they are not meeting these rules, then we take a
- 17 different kind of action.
- 18 MR. DENTON: I guess in my view five shifts
- 19 can fully meet our requirements for overtime and the
- 20 number of people in training.
- 21 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: What is in the back of my
- 22 mind is we don't want to take over management's job
- 23 completely ---
- 24 (Laughter.)
- 25 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: --- and we have certain

- 1 objectives and we want to make sure there are enough
- 2 people on the job, that they are not overworked and that
- 3 they are training. Then after we have specified that,
- 4 leave it to the utility to decide how many shifts it
- 5 needs to do all those things.
- 6 Now what I am saying is if they meet these
- 7 requirements, the 12 hours, the 12 hour break, the 72
- 8 hours and seven days and 14 days and then at least two
- 9 days off and training and so many on a shift, would we
- 10 have achieved all the objectives that you felt needed to
- 11 be achieved?
- 12 MR. DENTON: In my view, yes.
- 13 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: But we don't know
- 14 whether they are meeting them.
- 15 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: That is a different
- 16 question.
- 17 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: They are not really
- 18 requirements. It is just a line, and if you want to
- 19 exceed that line, you have got to get the manager's
- 20 signature. That is all it is. It is not like a
- 21 requirement on the number of diesel generators. You
- 22 know, you can't exceed that with the manager signing a
- 23 piece of paper. So it is a very different matter.
- 24 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: Well, somewhere if you
- 25 are going to have management you have got to have some

- 1 flexibility there. What you want to make sure is that
- 2 they are exercising that responsibility in a
- 3 straightforward and effective manner.
- 4 MR. DENTON: We can audit this area a year
- 5 from now and see if they are still meeting these
- 6 commitments. My view is that they are and I prefer to
- 7 have the flexibility to deal with the unusual cases on a
- 8 case-by-case basis. I think there have been cases in
- 9 which we haven't agreed in the past that people could
- 10 safely operate and acted there. I guess it is a matter
- ii of style as to whether you want a rule of five or six
- 12 shifts or whether you think you need one or not.
- 13 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Why should we
- 14 differentiate this from say a requirement on batteries
- 15 or diesel generators?
- 16 MR. DENTON: I guess, Commissioner, the only
- 17 reason I see the difference is that those things stay in
- 18 play for four years. They occasionally don't work. The
- 19 people problem and turnover in the company and
- 20 unexpected attrition or illness makes running and
- 21 meeting people requirements somewhat different. I can
- 22 see a need for flexibility if the underlying functions
- 23 of those people are performed or not.
- 24 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Well, by setting a
- 25 requirement on shifts you still need a fair degree of

- 1 flexibility as far as individuals go, but it means that
- 2 the company is forced to have a certain staff which
- 3 ought to go a long way to making sure of the fact that
- 4 most people will not get overworked and so on.
- 5 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: But we have that when we
- 6 say how many people and what quality we want on each
- 7 shift, and when we give them the rules around which ---
- 8 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: But those rules ---
- 9 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: That is what I was going
- 10 to say though. You are saying we are not enforcing them.
- 11 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Yes.
- 12 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: Maybe the better thing is
- 13 to enforce these rules rather than try to set another
- 14 rule up.
- 15 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: But there is a
- 16 fundamental difference between those rules and what we
- 17 are talking about here. Those rules are on hours people
- 18 work and these are the number of complementing people,
- 19 although you can argue about what a shift is also.
- 20 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: There are various ways
- 21 to do this. I just think that setting the number of
- 22 shifts is a simple way of doing it which still leaves a
- 23 fair degree of flexibility and it still allows for some
- 24 accommodation of special circumstances. It means that
- 25 you are making sure that the company at the corporate

- 1 level is going to have to budget for a certain staff,
- 2 and you are taking the burden off the manager of the
- 3 facility and putting it with his corporate management
- 4 and making sure they budget for an adequate operating
- 5 staff. From then on it is his responsibility and he has
- 6 got to manage the people.
- 7 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: I would be a lot more
- 8 comfortable with doing that if I felt we really had
- 9 something more than a feeling for what is the right
- 10 number of shifts or even what is the right number of
- 11 hours that people should work. I am a little uneasy
- 12 about, in fact I am very uneasy about stepping in and
- 13 saying that we will decide how many shifts or here are
- 14 the fixed number of hours that people should work based
- 15 upon the information that we have.
- 16 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Well, I thought
- 17 setting the number of shifts leaves more flexibility
- 18 than specifying hours per day.
- 19 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: It does leave
- 20 flexibility, but, as you have described, it is taking
- 21 over a part of the management ---
- 22 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: You are saying you
- 23 have got to budget this much for an operating staff.
- 24 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: I think you are saying
- 25 something different. Maybe using shifts is a shorthand,

- 1 but I don't understand six shifts, unless you just have
- 2 a shift that is just waiting.
- 3 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Well, we are not
- 4 talking about a specific number here.
- 5 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: By the time you say how
- 6 many people should be on a shift ---
- 7 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Well, the number could
- 8 be six, it could be five, it could be four or it could
- 9 be seven.
- 10 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: When we pass the rule
- 11 that we acting on it will say "X" number of operators,
- 12 "Y" number of senior operators, and one shift supervisor.
- 13 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Duplicated so many
- 14 times.
- 15 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: And duplicated so many
- 16 times. Now if you say six shifts, then you have to
- 17 precisely have six shift supervisors, if I interpret
- 18 your rule right. And if one quits, then I am out of
- 19 compliance.
- 20 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: It is just like if you
- 21 have diesel generators, if they don't work ---
- 22 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: But the reason you had
- 23 the six was because you wanted one more than the minimum.
- 24 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Well, maybe they can
- 25 just set the minimum at five and recommend six. You

- 1 know, I am not arguing for a specific number here. A
- 2 prudent manager would make sure that he had enough
- 3 people over that line so he doesn't get himself in a
- 4 situation where he goes below the minimum.
- 5 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: Well, a prudent manager
- 6 would not try to micro-manage, and that is what I think
- 7 we are trying to do. We said here is the maximum number
- 8 of hours and here are the number of hours you have got
- 9 to have between breaks.
- 10 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: That is why I don't
- 11 like those rules.

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- 12 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: I think they are
- 13 excellent rules, except that I think we are not
- 14 enforcing them.
- 15 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Joe, you are talking
- 16 about us not getting involved in the details of
- 17 precisely how many hours each individual should work,
- 18 but you want to go ---
- 19 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: That is because we have
- 20 got them. I don't want to add another one here on top
- 21 of them.
- 22 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Well, I would suggest
- 23 replacing these with a requirement on shifts. That was
- 24 my point.
- 25 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: Then let them work it out.

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- 1 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Let them sort it out.
- 2 But I think if they have enough people, I assume they
- 3 will spread the work around and they won't load up a
- 4 small fraction of the work force and let the others sit
- 5 around.
- 6 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: Well, I guess my own view
- 7 is I am not sure we have a problem.
- 8 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Well, I think the
- 9 situation looks a lot better, I must say, than I
- 10 expected and I am pleased to see that. But suppose we
- 11 were looking, just to get back to the example, batteries
- 12 or diesel generators, I don't think we would say well
- 13 most of them have got enough diesel generators so there
- 14 is no point in having a requirement.
- 15 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: No, but I think we
- 16 would on diesel generators come in with at least a
- 17 better either an historical base or an analysis to
- 18 justify why it is there ought to be a requirement on
- 19 diesel generators and we are not there yet. At least I
- 20 don't think we are there yet on any of these.
- 21 We are moving slowly on the number of people
- 22 in the control, and I think we feel fairly comfortable
- 23 we have got that. We are moving very slowly on the
- 24 qualifications of those people whose numbers we have
- 25 specified in the control room. Then to move further to

- 1 then say in addition how long shall those people be
- 2 allowed to work, which is either hours or shifts, I
- 3 think we are still farther away from. At least I feel
- 4 that way.
- 5 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Well, we are more or
- 6 less pretending that we have a requirement in that area.
- 7 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: Given advice.
- 8 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: When we come to the
- 9 number of people on shift, I presume that is going to be
- 10 a requirement.
- 11 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: No, that is a
- 12 requirement. I am talking about the number of hours ---
- 13 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: Well, that is more
- 14 comparable to your diesel generators or your batteries.
- 15 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: No, I don't think so.
- 16 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: Well, if I have got to
- 17 have so many diesel generators available when I run the
- 18 plant, that is the same as how many I have got to have.
- 19 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Oh, in the control
- 20 room?
- 21 CHAIRMAN PALLADING: Yes.
- 22 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Yes, I think that is
- 23 right, but not when you say 12 hours per day.
- 24 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: Oh, I agree with you.
- 25 You don't work batteries that hard.

- 1 (Laughter.)
- 2 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Well, if you don't
- 3 feel there is a problem.
- 4 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: Let's ask the staff. Do
- 5 you feel there is a problem that we need to solve by
- 6 passing some policy or rule?
- 7 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Well, let me ask you
- 8 this. What happens if a plant goes down to three shifts
- 9 or two shifts? Do they notify somebody?
- 10 MR. DENTON: What happens in real life is the
- 11 resident is the first person to know it. I remember in
- 12 recent times the Salem experience and the Regional
- 13 Director made some evaluation and calls us here and
- 14 discusses his views on whether they can safety continue
- 15 or not, and we either support him or not. So it is a
- 16 decision made by the people close up to the facility who
- 17 know the specific individuals involved and their
- 18 capabilities rather than by a rigid system.
- 19 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: One of the things you
- 20 would be accomplishing by setting a requirement is that
- 21 you would be making sure that corporate mangement does
- 22 not slack off in providing enough funds and supporting
- 23 the individual plants and plant managers in this area.
- 24 If we don't care all that much, I don't know what will
- 25 happen.

- 1 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: That is a
- 2 mischaracterization, Vic. You can go ahead and say we
- 3 don't care, and maybe you have detailed information that
- 4 leads you to conclude the details. I just have not seen
- 5 us with enough information that will enable me to reach
- 6 a conclusion of what that number should be that I can
- 7 say all right, utility, you must have no less than
- 8 this. We don't have that.
- 9 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: Can I ask Harold a
- 10 question. We keep saying these are not requirements,
- 11 the 12 hours, et cetera. Are they requirements or
- 12 aren't they requirements?
- 13 MR. DENTON: You are speaking of the overtime
- 14 requirements?
- 15 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: Yes, the 12 hours, the 72
- 16 hours ---
- 17 (Laughter.)
- 18 MR. DENTON: They are not Commission
- 19 regulations. That is clear. Many of the utilities have
- 20 committed to abide by these in their letters to us.
- 21 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: And once they commit to
- 22 it does it have the force of regulation?
- 23 MR. DENTON: Well, not the same force a
- 24 regulation would have. Then the inspector inspects that
- 25 obligation just like he does others, and if he doesn't

- 1 think they are honoring it, he can take action.
- 2 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: But honoring it means
- 3 that they will not exceed it unless the plant manager or
- 4 whoever the designated official is will approve it,
- 5 which means that they can exceed these limits.
- 6 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: My experience is they do
- 7 it only under duress. They don't do it as a routine
- 8 thing because your whole organization goes to pot when
- 9 you do it.
- 10 MR. DENTON: I think we specifically had the
- 11 plant manager approve it so it would not be abused by a
- 12 lower level and it would have the highest level of
- 13 approval.
- 14 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: These are incorporated
- 15 in this sort of nebulous document, 737, which is a
- 16 letter. Now the title of the letter is "Post-TMI
- 17 Requirements" and it is written to all licensees of
- 18 operating plants, for example, and it does say the
- 19 letter incorporates all TMI related iters approved for
- 20 implementation by the Commission. So all the words and
- 21 flavor characterize it as though it were a requirement,
- 22 although as we know it is a little difficult to really
- 23 pin down exacty what is the legal action.
- 24 As I recall on a number of other times when
- 25 this issue has come up either you, Harold, or ELD has

- 1 pointed out or IEE that if they don't follow this, then
- 2 you would expect to issue them an order making them
- 3 follow it.
- 4 MR. DENTON: If they deliberately didn't
- 5 follow it, then we would issue a show cause order and
- 6 that would then have the force ---
- 7 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: But not following it
- 8 means exceeding those limits without the manager's
- 9 approval. That is what not following it means.
- 10 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: Well, the whole
- 11 sentence says "Recognizing that circumstances may
- 12 arising requiring deviation from the above restrictions,
- 13 such deviations shall be authorized by the plant manager
- 14 or his deputy or higher levels of management in
- 15 accordance with published procedures and with
- 16 appropriate documentation of the cause."
- 17 So that to follow this would mean that they,
- 18 if they are following it, that they are either living
- 19 within those guidelines or else there is not only a
- 20 record of approval but a record of the cause of the
- 21 approval. That is why I think it might be interesting
- 22 to find out whether we have ever checked any of those.
- 23 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: Do we check into that?
- 24 Do we check whether or not the approval for exceptions
- 25 is used?

- 1 MR. DENTON: I don't know whether that is a
- 2 part of the routine inspection package or whether it is
- 3 audited by the region or not.
- 4 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: It might be well to do
- 5 some spot checking in some of the forthcoming
- 6 inspections.
- 7 Are there any other questions or expressions
- 8 of opinion?
- 9 (No response.)
- 10 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: I don't know whether I
- 11 got the sense of the Commission or not. I would like to
- 12 go away knowing what we want to do.
- 13 Does the Commission wish to take any steps to
- 14 develop a policy or a rule on the number of shifts?
- 15 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: Not at this time.
- 16 COMMISSIONER ROBERTS: I wouldn't.
- 17 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: I guess I would.
- 18 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: One, two, three "No" and
- 19 you say "Yes." Then I would suspect that we not do
- 20 that, that we not make any policy or rule.
- 21 I do think though it would be appropriate in
- 22 some of the forthcoming or future inspections that some
- 23 spot checking be made of the extent to which the
- 24 exception authority might be abused or how it is being
- 25 used.

- 1 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: That would probably be
- 2 an SRM to EDO for relay to the regions.
- 3 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: Where is staff? Oh,
- 4 there he is. Okay, he heard it.
- 5 (Secretary Chilk nodded positively from the
- 6 back of the room.)
- 7 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: Any other items we should
- 8 cover on this point?
- 9 (No response.)
- 10 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: Okay. I note we started
- 11 on time and I think we ending ahead of time.
- 12 COMMISSIONER ROBERTS: I hope you are setting
- 13 a precedent.
- 14 (Laughter.)
- 15 COMMISSIONER AHEARNE: I would like to also
- 16 comment that it is good for once for the staff to have
- 17 come having done a survey and found that things are
- 18 better than they thought.
- 19 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: That was good to
- 20 discover.
- 21 CHAIRMAN PALLADINO: Well, it may be showing
- 22 they recognize requirements, too.
- 23 Thank you. We will stand adjourned.
- 24 (Whereupon, at 3:05 p.m., the meeting
- 25 adjourned.)

MUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

in the matter	PUBLIC MEETING - Briefing on Minimum Number of Shift Required at Operating Reactors July 21, 1982
	Docket Number:
4.5	Flace of Proceeding: Washington, D. C.
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PURPOSE

TO PROVIDE COMMISSION WITH A STATUS REPORT REGARDING THE NUMBER OF SHIFTS EMPLOYED FOR VARIOUS OPERATING MODES AT OPERATING FACILITIES.

BACKGROUND

- TOTAL NUMBER OF SHIFTS DRIVEN
 BY PAST INDUSTRY PRACTICE
 AND NRC CONCERNS
- No REGULATIONS
- No REGULATORY GUIDES
- No BRANCH TECHNICAL POSITIONS
- NOT IN TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

PAST PRACTICE

- Two SHIFT OPERATION FOR BRIEF PERIODS
- THREE SHIFT OPERATION WITH RELIEF FOR EXTENDED PERIODS
- FOUR SHIFT OPERATION WITH RELIEF FOR EXTENDED PERIODS
- FIVE SHIFT OPERATION WITH RELIEF EVOLVING
- SIX SHIFT OPERATION EVOLVING

PRESENT PRACTICE

No. OF SHIFTS DETERMINED BY:

- 1) RETRAINING
- 2) OVERTIME
- 3) LICENSED OPERATORS AVAILABLE FOR EACH SHIFT

EFFECT

- Most Licensees
 - 1) Use five or more shifts
 - 2) Using less than five shifts have candidates in pipeline

PRESENT INDUSTRY STATUS

SHIFTS USED	Number OF FACILITIES	Number OF Units
3 SHIFTS PLUS SPARE OPERATORS	1	1
4 SHIFTS - PLANNING FOR 5 SHIFTS	2	4
5 SHIFTS - NO PLANS TO INCREASE	16	26
5 SHIFTS - PLANNING FOR 5 SHIFTS	17	24
6 SHIFTS - NO PLANS TO INCREASE	10	14
6 SHIFTS - PLANNING FOR 7 SHIFTS	1	1

FACILITIES ON 3 SHIFTS

. FORT ST. VRAIN

FACILITIES ON 4 SHIFTS

- . North Anna 1 & 2
- . McGuire 1 & 2

FACILITIES ON 5 SHIFTS

- . ARKANSAS NUCLEAR ONE 1 & 2
- . BEAVER VALLEY 1
- . BIG ROCK POINT 1
- . BROWNS FERRY 1, 2 & 3
- . CALVERT CLIFFS 1 & 2
- . COOPER
- . DAVIS BESSE 1
- . D. C. COOK 1 & 2
- . DRESDEN 2 & 3
- . DUANE ARNOLD 1
- . FARLEY 1 & 2
- . GINNA
- . HATCH 1 & 2
- . INDIAN POINT 2 & 3

FACILITIES ON 5 SHIFTS (CONT.)

- . KEWAUNEE
- . LACROSSE
- . MAINE YANKEE
- . OCONNE 1, 2 & 3
- . OYSTER CREEK
- . PALISADES
- . PEACH BOTTOM 2 & 3
- . PILGRIM 1
- . POINT BEACH 1 & 2
- . QUAD CITIES 1 & 2
- . RANCHO SECO
- . SALEM 1 & 2
- . SAN ONOFRE 1
- . SEQUOYAH 1 & 2
- . SURRY 1 & 2
- . TROJAN
- . VERMONT YANKEE
- . YANKEE ROWE
- . ZION 1 & 2

FACILITIES ON 6 SHIFTS

- . CRYSTAL RIVER
- . FITZPATRICK
- . FORT CALHOUN
- . H. B. ROBINSON 2
- . MILLSTONE 2 & 3
- . MONTICELLO
- . NINE MILE POINT
- . PRAIRIE ISLAND 1 & 2
- . ST. LUCIE 1
- . TMI-1 (SHUTDOWN)
- . TURKEY POINT 3 & 4

6 SHIFTS

PROS

- . Assures complete complement of LICENSED STAFF
- . ADDRESSES RETRAINING AND OVERTIME CONCERNS
- . ALLOWS INTERACTION BETWEEN
 OPERATIONAL STAFF AND
 TECHNICAL STAFF

Cons

. INDUSTRY MAY NEED TO ATTRACT MORE CANDIDATES INTO RO/SRO TRAINING PROGRAM

5 SHIFTS

PROS

- . ALL SHIFTS FULLY COVERED WITH A SHIFT IN TRAINING
- . WITH RELIEF PERSONNEL INTANGIBLES ADDRESSED

Cons

- . INDIVIDUAL REPLACEMENT PREDOMINANT
- . Use of training personnel to backfill operations
- . OVERTIME

4 SHIFTS

PROS

. COVERAGE FOR ALL SHIFTS

Cons

- . IF RELIEF PERSONNEL ARE AVAILABLE
 INTANGIBLES ARE COVERED
- . LITTLE OR NO RETRAINING ACTIVITIES
- . OVERTIME
- . LITTLE COHESIVE INTERACTION

 BETWEEN OPERATIONAL STAFF AND

 TECHNICAL STAFF

PROS/CONS

3 SHIFTS

PROS

. UTILITY USING MINIMUM NUMBER
OF LICENSED PERSONNEL

Cons

- . INSUFFICIENT LICENSED PERSONNEL
 AT FACILITY
- . No RETRAINING PROGRAM ACTIVITIES
- . OVERTIME
- . 12-HOUR SHIFT RULE RATHER THAN EXCEPTION

FUTURE ACTION

COMMISSION COULD -

- 1) DIRECT A RULEMAKING
- 2) DIRECT A POLICY MAKING
- 3) DIRECT NRR TO ISSUE A LETTER TO ALL LICENSEES AND APPLICANTS
- 4) CONTINUE PRESENT PRACTISE
 - OVERTIME
 - RETRAINING

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