" AE 39-2"



NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON D C. 20555

JUL 2 8 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Frank J. Miraglia, Jr., Deputy Director

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Martin G. Malsch, Deputy General Counsel

for Licensing and Regulations

Office of General Counsel

FROM:

C. J. Heltemes, Jr., Deputy Director for Generic Issues and Rulemaking Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

SUBJECT:

REVISION OF 10 CFR PART 55, "OPERATOR REQUALIFICATION

EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS" (TAC NO. M83023)

The purpose of this memorandum is to request your concurrence on the extent and substance of a rulemaking in preparation to revise 10 CFR Part 55, "Operator Requalification Examination Requirements."

1. Title: Revision of 10 CFR Part 55

2. RES Section-Task Leader: Rajender Auluck (492-3794)

Cognizant Individual: NRR: David J. Lange (504-3171)

4. Requested Action: Concurrence on enclosed Issue Paper

5. Requested Completion Date: July 31, 1992

6. Summary: By memorandum dated April 14, 1992, the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation requested the subject amendments. The planned amendments are: 1) to eliminate the requirement for each licensed operator to pass a comprehensive requalification written examination and operating test administered by the NRC during the term of the operator's 6-year license, and 2) to require each facility licensee to submit a copy of each comprehensive requalification written examination and annual operating test to the NRC for review as part of a revised inspection program.

By SRM dated June 23, 1992 (enclosed), the Commission approved the staff's plans for developing the proposed amendments related to the Operator's requalification examination requirements and recommended that the staff utilize results-based approaches to the maximum extent possible.

On April 20, 1992, staff members from NRR and RES met to develop a strategy for drafting the proposed amendments. RES has prepared, with the assistance of NRR, an "issue paper" outlining: 1) the issue to be resolved, 2) the proposed resolution, 3) the benefits of resolving the issue, and 4) the costs of the proposed resolution on the licensee and the NRC. This issue paper has been drafted to allow cognizant offices to voice their opinions and provide their approval of the extent and substance of the issue and its suggested resolution. The paper, after resolving office comments, will be used to prepare the Federal Register Notice for the proposed rule. To accelerate the process of final concurrence on the FRN, your careful attention to the text and the rationale presented is requested.

We are requesting that you review the enclosed issue paper and provide us with your recommendations and approval by the date requested above.

Original Sanud by:

C. J. Heltemes, Jr., Deputy Director for Generic Issues and Rulemaking Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

Enclosures:

1. SRM dated June 23, 1992

2. Issue Paper

cc: Stuart A. Treby Jack W. Roe Robert M. Gallo

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See Previous Concurrence DD: DRA: RESPT LOLB/NRR Offc: RDB: DRA* RDB: DRA* NRR* D: DRA: RES Name: RAuluck:es JTEIford RGallo JWRoe FCostanzi BMorris CJHel temes 7/9/92 07/41/92 Date: 07/17/92 07/17/92 7/8/92 07/21/92 OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

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C. (J. Heltemes, Jr.) Deputy Director for Generic Issues and Rulemaking Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

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