



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

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MEMORANDUM FOR: James P. O'Reilly
Regional Administrator
Region II

James Keppler
Regional Administrator
Region III

FROM: William J. Dircks
Executive Director for Operations

Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: DELEGATION AND ASSIGNMENT TO REGIONS II AND III
OF CERTAIN OPERATOR LICENSING FUNCTIONS

Pursuant to NRC Manual Chapter 0128, "Organization and Functions - Regional Offices," the Regional Administrators of both Regions II and III (Regional Administrators) are hereby assigned and authorized to perform certain licensing functions described herein relating to operator licensing.

Pursuant to the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974, the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation is responsible for the principal licensing and regulation involving facilities and materials associated with the construction and operation of nuclear reactors licensed under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended. Pursuant to NRC Manual Chapter 0123, "Organization and Functions - Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation," the functions of NRR extend to licensing of all production and utilization facilities, other than fuel reprocessing plants and isotopic enrichment plants, including the licensing of operators of such facilities pursuant to 10 CFR Part 55. NRR will remain responsible for determining overall licensing and regulatory policy pertaining to licensing of operators pursuant to 10 CFR Part 55. To enable NRR to execute this responsibility properly, NRR will maintain oversight of licensing functions that are delegated to the Regional Administrators pursuant to this assignment. This oversight shall include ongoing NRR staff review of documentation related to the assigned licensing functions and periodic assessments of licensing activities being conducted by the Region. The Director of NRR also retains the authority to take actions determined necessary in all matters hereby assigned to the Regional Administrators.

Pursuant to this delegation and assignment, the Regional Administrators of Regions II and III are responsible for implementing established NRC licensing and regulatory policy regarding operator licensing for nuclear reactors within their particular regions. The specific matters hereby assigned to the Regional Administrators of Regions II and III and the procedures to be followed in the implementation of

these assigned matters are set forth in the "Procedures for Regional Implementation of Operator Licensing Functions" (Procedures) issued by the Director of NRR. Activities include processing applications, preparing, administering and grading examinations, and issuing and denying licenses and certifications for operators, senior operators and instructors. Future changes to matters assigned to the Regional Administrators of Regions II and III and to regional implementation of the operator licensing program shall be made in writing by the Director of NRR through revisions to the above-referenced Procedures. If, in the course of performing assigned licensing functions, matters arise which could reasonably be expected to have policy implications, the Region shall consult with the Operator Licensing Branch (OLB), NRR, regarding decisions concerning such matters. If a licensing and regulation matter arises which has not been specifically delegated and assigned pursuant to this Memorandum, it remains the responsibility of NRR until a specific task assignment is made to the Region.

Should NRR and the Region disagree on whether an issue constitutes an item which remains the responsibility of NRR or an item which has been delegated and assigned to the Region, the matter will be resolved between the Director of Human Factors Safety (DHFS), NRR, and the appropriate Regional Division Director. Should attempts at resolution be unsuccessful at that level, the matter will be referred to the Director of NRR for decision in consultation with the Regional Administrator.

(Signed) William J. Dircks

William J. Dircks
Executive Director for Operations

Original Signed by
H. R. Denton

Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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