

JAN 25 1991

Docket No. STN 50-482
License No. NPF-42

Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation
ATTN: Bart D. Withers
President and Chief Executive Officer
P.O. Box 411
Burlington, Kansas 66839

Gentlemen:

This responds to your letter of January 11, 1991, requesting NRC oversight and co-administration of the reexamination of licensed individuals who failed to complete successfully portions of the recently administered requalification examinations.

The two individuals that had previously failed to complete successfully only the NRC administered requalification written portion of the examination were administered NRC reexaminations on January 21, 1991. We understand they have been evaluated by you as passing these reexaminations. We agree with this evaluation. These individuals are, therefore, eligible to return to licensed duties and will be notified by NRC of these results, and their successful completion of this requirement for license renewal.

The two individuals that had previously failed to complete successfully the NRC administered requalification dynamic simulator portion of the examination were administered NRC reexaminations on January 23, 1991. We understand that they have been evaluated by you as failing these examinations based on your evaluation criteria, which are more extensive than our criteria for requalification examinations. Using our criteria, one of these individuals successfully completed the reexamination. Because you evaluated these individuals as failing the reexamination, they are, therefore, not eligible to return to licensed duties without our concurrence. However, because NRC evaluated one of these individuals as passing the reexamination, he has successfully completed this requirement for license renewal. Both individuals will be notified by NRC of these results, their status with regard to performing licensed duties, and their status with regard to completing this requirement for license renewal.

Based upon our observation of your reexamination of the individual who previously had failed a facility administered requalification examination, but who has now passed this reexamination, we concur with your evaluation that this individual is now performing at an acceptable level. Therefore, we concur in your request to return this individual to licensed duties.

RIV:C:OLS
JLPellet/lb
1/25/91

AD:DRS
JPJaudon
1/25/91

BC:OLB:DLPO:NRR
RGallo
1/25/91

D:DRS
SJCollins
1/25/91

RMartin
1/25/91

per telecon w/ J. Munro

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PDR ADDCK 05000482
PDR

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Individuals who failed an NRC administered requalification examination and have not yet been reexamined successfully by the NRC for license renewal purposes will be reexamined during the next NRC evaluation of the licensed operator requalification program, scheduled for the week of August 12, 1991. This evaluation will also examine at least 12 licensed operators not previously examined for license renewal and program evaluation purposes.

We consider your corrective actions, as agreed in our management meeting on December 6, 1990, and documented in our Requalification Examination Report 50-482/DL 90-01, to be commitments to the NRC. If you disagree, please so inform us by letter within 30 days of receipt of this letter. We have evaluated your implementation of your short-term corrective action commitments both in our observation of your reexaminations and by the recently concluded training inspection (NRC Inspection Report 50-482/91-03).

Based upon the observed failures on the November and January dynamic simulator reexaminations, we conclude that you continue to have difficulty in training or remediating licensed individuals to the necessary performance level. However, we have considerable confidence in the performance of those individuals that we have observed as satisfactory and in your ability to constitute watch crews as a result of the compensatory performance of crews with respect to individual performance weaknesses. Therefore, we continue to require you to fulfill your commitment in your November 2, 1990, letter to seek NRC concurrence before returning to licensed duties individuals that have not successfully completed NRC administered or observed requalification examinations. However, we agree that you may reconstitute existing crews without our concurrence. Your licensed operator requalification training program will continue to be considered as unsatisfactory until successfully completing the program reevaluation in August 1991.

If you have any questions or comments on this matter, please contact me or Mr. John L. Pellet, Chief, Operator Licensing Section.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
J.M. MONTGOMERY

you Robert D. Martin
Regional Administrator

cc:
Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corp.
ATTN: Gary Boyer, Plant Manager
P.O. Box 411
Burlington, Kansas 66839

Shaw, Pittman, Potts & Trowbridge
ATTN: Jay Silberg, Esq.
1800 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20036

Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating
Corporation

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Public Service Commission
ATTN: Chris R. Rogers, P.E.
Manager, Electric Department
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Regional Administrator, Region III
799 Roosevelt Road
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corp.
ATTN: Otto Maynard, Manager
Regulatory Services
P.O. Box 411
Burlington, Kansas 66839

Kansas Corporation Commission
ATTN: Robert Elliot, Chief Engineer
Utilities Division
4th Floor - State Office Building
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1571

Office of the Governor
State of Kansas
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Attorney General
1st Floor - The Statehouse
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Chairman, Coffey County Commission
Coffey County Courthouse
Burlington, Kansas 66839

Kansas Department of Health
and Environment
Bureau of Air Quality & Radiation
Control
ATTN: Gerald Allen, Public
Health Physicist
Division of Environment
Forbes Field Building 321
Topeka, Kansas 66620

bcc to DMB (IE42)
bcc distrib. by RIV:
R. D. Martin

Resident Inspector

Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating
Corporation

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Section Chief (DRP/D)
DRSS-RPEPS
RIV File
MIS System
Project Engineer (DRP/D)
DRS

DRP
Section Chief (RIII, DRP/3C)
SRI, Callaway, RIII
RSTS Operator
Lisa Shea, RM/ALF