

Docket No. 50-354

AUG 6 1992

Mr. Steven E. Miltenberger
Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer
Public Service Electric & Gas Company
Post Office Box 236
Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey 08038

Dear Mr. Miltenberger:

SUBJECT: MEETING TO DISCUSS THE LICENSED OPERATOR INITIAL
EXAMINATION DEVELOPMENT AND ADMINISTRATION PROCESS

This letter refers to the meeting held at the NRC Regional office in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, on June 15, 1992. The meeting was convened at your staff's request to discuss the licensed operator initial examination development and administration process.

Your staff provided favorable comments on the mutual benefit and effectiveness of our recent on-site preexamination review at Hope Creek, and they expressed a desire for them to continue. The process will continue, subject to the amount of examination material that needs to be validated coupled with resource limitations of NRC staff.

Your cooperation with our staff in these matters is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Colandrea
Marvin W. Hodges

Marvin W. Hodges, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

Enclosure: Meeting Summary

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Mr. Steven E. Miltenberger

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cc w/encl:

S. LaBruna, Vice President-Nuclear Operations
J. Isabella, Director, Generation Projects Department,
Atlantic Electric Company
J. J. Hagan, General Manager - Hope Creek Operations
F. Thomson, Manager - Licensing and Regulation
J. T. Robb, Director, Joint Owner Affairs
A. C. Tapert, Program Administrator
R. Fryling, Jr., Esquire
M. J. Wetterhahn, Esquire
Lower Alloways Creek Township
K. Abraham, PAO (2)
Public Document Room (PDR)
Local Public Document Room (LPDR)
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)
NRC Resident inspector
State of New Jersey

bcc w/encl:

Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)
M. Hodges, DRS
W. Lanning, DRS
L. Bettenhausen, DRS
E. Wenzinger, DRP
R. Conte, DRS
J. White, DRP
R. Lobel, OEDO
S. Dembek, NRR
J. Stone, NRR
DRS/EB SALP Coordinator
DRSS SALP Coordinator
C. Sisco, DRS
DRS File

RI:DRS
Sisco/dmg
CEJ
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RI:DRS
Conte
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08/4/92

RI:DRS
Bettenhausen
Bettenhausen
08/4/92

RI:DRS
Hodges
Hodges
08/5/92

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HOPE CREEK MEETING SUMMARY

OPERATOR LICENSING ISSUES

JULY 15, 1992
MEETING SUMMARY

1.0 OBJECTIVE

The objective of the meeting was to discuss the licensed operator initial examination development and administration process.

2.0 SUMMARY

2.1 Preexamination Review

The facility staff presented their perspective on the preexamination review. The facility staff considered the recent on-site preexamination review at Hope Creek to be mutually beneficial and effective and they suggested that it be continued.

The NRC staff concurred with the licensee comments and indicated that the on-site preexamination reviews will continue, subject to the amount of examination material to be validated and the resource limitations of NRC staff. Otherwise, the preexamination validation will occur during the examination week.

A thorough review of the written examination by the facility staff was encouraged including the independent taking of the examination by operations department assigned reviewers on security agreements. The NRC staff also indicated that preexamination reviews enable technical deficiencies of individual questions to be identified and corrected during the examination development process.

The examination security agreements that are signed before the preexamination review, and adequate training records, are sufficient to avert examination compromise and prove compromise has not occurred.

2.2 Written Examination

The facility staff presented their views on the written examination content as well as resolution (by NRC staff) of comments made during the preexamination review. Overall, the facility considered the written examination to be challenging, yet fair. However, the facility staff questioned the inclusion in the examination of materials they had previously commented on.

Based on these discussions, it was determined that questions concerning industrial safety practices, and significant Licensee Event Reports would continue to appear on future written

examinations. Also, the NRC staff will endeavor to provide resolution of facility comments before the examination is administered. It is understood, however, that NRC staff makes the final determination of resolution of facility comments.

2.3 Simulator Examination

The facility staff presented their views on the simulator examinations that were recently conducted. The facility staff considered the simulator examinations challenging and operationally oriented. Also, the facility staff committed to continued effective communication with the NRC staff.

The NRC staff is appreciative of the cooperation and expertise of the training staff to assist in the development of simulator scenarios that are both challenging and operationally oriented.

3.0 CONCLUSION

The on-site preexamination review process will continue whenever possible. A thorough review of the written examination by the facility staff was encouraged for the initial examinations. Meaningful dialogue with facility staff occurred and should continue to eliminate potential problems in the initial licensed operator examination development and administration process.

Attachment: Meeting Attendees

Attachment 1

Meeting Attendees

NRC

M. Hodges, Director, DRS

L. Bettenhausen, Chief, Operations Branch, DRS

R. Conte, Chief, BWR Section, DRS

S. Stewart, Operations Engineer

C. Sisco, Operations Engineer

Public Service Electric & Gas Company

A. Orticelle, Training Manager

W. Gott, Principal Training Supervisor

G. Mecchi, Principal Trainer