



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

July 25, 1983

HR17  
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MEMORANDUM FOR: Harold R. Denton ✓  
Director, NRR


Thomas E. Murley  
Regional Administrator, R-I

FROM: William J. Dircks  
Executive Director for Operations

SUBJECT: QUALIFICATIONS OF SHOREHAM OPERATING STAFF

As a followup to recent conversations on this subject, I am enclosing a list of questions that the Cuomo Commission is considering as part of their inquiry.

Please note the number of concerns they have on the qualifications of personnel.

  
William J. Dircks  
Executive Director  
for Operations

Enclosure  
As above

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NRR

THE SHOREHAM COMMISSION

QUESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

1. Are there components, equipment, construction or designs related to the Shoreham Nuclear Power Plant that fail to meet current requirements of the NRC but qualify under "grandfather" provisions?
2. Many nuclear power plants have in place and in use, before licensing, a training simulator. LILCO does not possess one; it trains staff on simulators in power plants that do not replicate Shoreham's functioning. Why is LILCO late in ordering a simulator?
3. As safe day to day operations of the Shoreham Nuclear Plant rests with LILCO management and staff, how much boiling water reactor experience does LILCO possess?
4. Is LILCO's management and operations related to Shoreham credible and worthy of public confidence? What is the track record of public pronouncements and performance?
5. LILCO's 200+ nuclear related personnel possess less than three years average nuclear experience. In addition, most members of top management have little or no nuclear experience. Does this limited nuclear expertise represent a deficiency that should concern the public? *comparison*
6. As opposed to hiring personnel with "hands-on" experience with boiling water reactors, LILCO has embarked upon a program of training and promotions from "within" to fill many of its functions related to the management and operation of the Shoreham Nuclear Plant. As LILCO's staff expertise is fossil fuel based, does this staffing policy represent a valid concern for the public?
7. A number of individuals have questioned the quality of construction of the Shoreham Plant. What are the specific areas (i.e.-items) of concern? How have the questions related to construction been resolved?
8. Suffolk County, after expending \$600,000 to develop a comprehensive plan of evacuation of the residents in the event of a qualified accident, concluded as to the impossibility of evacuation without the loss of life. Is Suffolk County's evacuation effort credible? Are the assumptions employed in the County plan reasonable? Do the conclusions reached follow from the assumptions?
9. In the event that the Shoreham Nuclear Plant is licensed and electric rates increase 60%, what is the estimated economic impact on the Long Island region? Will a 60% rate increase affect property taxes and retail prices? Will the standard of living be affected?

SHOREHAM

Problem: Lack of operating BWR experience among corporate and plant management staff.

Proposal: Call from NRC (NRR and RI) to LILCO President (Wilfrid Uhl) with the following comments.

1. NRC has little confidence in J. Rivello, current Station Manager. He appears not to have a solid grasp of the plant and he conveys a flippant attitude toward plant operations. NRC staff has confidence in W. Steiger, the current Operations Manager.
2. LILCO needs to bring more people with operating experience into the line organization. (Suggest LILCO contact Niagara Mohawk to contract for experienced people waiting around for Nine Mile Pt. 2. PASNY used Niagara Mohawk people for a couple of years on Fitzpatrick).
3. LILCO should get more outside, independent members on the Nuclear Review Board that reports to Milt Pollock. As currently constituted, it is nearly all LILCO managers and outsiders under contract to LILCO.
4. If these changes are made, the role of the Advisors can be de-emphasized.

Proposed NRC Activities:

1. An unannounced inspection by an Operations Readiness Assessment Team to check the qualifications and experience of licensed operators and front-line supervisors. (Joint RI/NRR team in late August.)
2. Give requalification exams to licensed operators prior to fuel loading. (Joint RI/NRR team in September.)