

September 20, 1998

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The Secretary of the Commission
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20055-0001

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
RULEMAKING AND
ADJUDICATIONS STAFF

Attention: Rulemaking and Adjudication Staff

Subject: Comments on Proposed Rule 10 CFR 2 Subpart Part M
Federal Register: September 11, 1998 (Volume 63, Number 176)
Page 48644-48653

I have been a Licensed Operator (op 10984) for 6 years and work at the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station. I have been an employee of Boston Edison, Pilgrims owner, for 10 years. Currently, Boston Edison is planning to sell Pilgrim and transfer the operating license. My comments are directed more to what is missing in the proposed rule rather than to what it contains.

Comment 1. In response to the statement "*In general, license transfers do not involve any changes to plant operation or significant changes in personnel of consequence to the continued reasonable assurance of public health and safety, but rather involve changes in ownership or partial ownership of facilities at a corporate level.*" this is grossly misinformed and a dangerous assumption to base the transfer of an operating license. The factual matter is that significant losses of critical personnel must be anticipated and factored into the transfer decision. The training time required to replace Licensed Operators and other Critical Personnel of a year or more must be considered in the transfer proceedings. If the retention of critical plant personnel is not assured in advance of the license transfer the pressures on the remaining personnel can greatly reduce the margin of safety to the public. Requiring critical personnel to work extended shifts due to staff shortages, unavailability or lack of qualified staff, has a direct effect on their ability to correctly perform needed tasks during transients and normal operation. The proposed rule must require the applicant to submit a critical staff retention plan. This is a matter clearly within the jurisdiction of the Commission¹, §2.1308 (c) of the proposed rule. 1/0

Comment 2. In response to the aspect of the rule where there is no provision "*for any separate discovery*" and relies on the public document room. The Public Document Room is difficult to use. I would prefer a separate section on the NRC web site for each

¹ §50.47 Emergency plans. (b) (2) On-shift facility licensee responsibilities for emergency response adequate staffing to provide initial facility accident response in key functional areas is maintained at all times, timely augmentation of response capabilities is available....

Also 50.54(m) (1), 50.54 (m)(2) (i, through iv)

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proposed License Transfer. Where all relevant documents and correspondence may be accessed. This location must also have an index of all relevant documents and a short description of the information contained therein.

I appreciate the opportunity to submit comments on this very important topic. If you have any questions, please contact me at 508-428-3595.

Sincerely,

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