

NORTHEAST UTILITIES



THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS ELECTRIC COMPANY
HOLYoke WATER POWER COMPANY
NORTHEAST UTILITIES SERVICE COMPANY
NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY

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July 22, 1988
MP-12076
RE: NUREG 1021, ES-201-1

Mr. Robert M. Gallo, Chief
Operations Section, DRS
Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region I
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406

REFERENCE: Facility Operating License No. DPR-65
Docket No. 50-336
NRC Written Examination Comments, Millstone Unit 2

Dear Mr. Gallo:

On July 20, 1988, a review of the NRC SRO licensing written examination administered to three license candidates of Millstone Unit 2 (MP2) was conducted. This review was conducted by members of the MP2 Operator Training Staff and took place in two parts:

1. Prior to the examination administration, the examination questions were reviewed for technical accuracy and appropriateness. The comments resulting from this review were discussed with members of the NRC examination team and changes to the examination were made. The examination key was made available for reference during this review.
2. During and subsequent to the examination administration, the examination key was reviewed for technical accuracy and relationship to the questions asked. The comments resulting from the review were discussed with members of the NRC examination team and changes to the answer key were made.

Because modifications to the written examination were made based on our review, additional comments are few and pertain only to the appropriateness of certain questions. Specifically, the facility reviewers and the NRC examiners disagreed on the inclusion of several questions that required the examinee to state, from memory, the detailed bases for certain technical specifications. Despite our objections, the questions in contention were included on the examination as administered.

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Notwithstanding this disagreement, the two step review process employed is a significant improvement over NRC past practice of allowing the facility to review the examination and answer key only after the examination has been administered. It is recommended that, in the future, additional time be given to conduct this review. Additionally, the MP2 Operator Training staff was allowed to review and comment on the simulator scenarios prior to the simulator examinations. This review and subsequent scenario modification helped ensure that the scenarios were within the bounds of the simulator's capabilities and compatible with the training program's learning objectives.

These new review practices should be employed for all future NRC licensing examinations.

Yours truly,

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY

For: Stephen E. Scace
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c: Document Control Desk, USNRC
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