

July 6, 1999

Mr. John F. Franz, Jr.
Vice President, Nuclear
Alliant Tower
200 First Street SE
P. O. Box 351
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-0351

SUBJECT: OPERATOR LICENSING EXAMINATION REPORT 50-331/99301(OL)

Dear Mr. Franz:

On May 25, 1999, your training staff administered an NRC approved initial operator licensing retake examination at your Duane Arnold Energy Center (DAEC) Nuclear Station. At the conclusion of the examination process, preliminary findings were discussed with those members of your training staff identified in the enclosed report. The applicant's license performance evaluation was finalized and those members of your staff were informed of the results on June 4, 1999.

Your staff administered a written examination to one reactor operator applicant who had previously demonstrated unsatisfactory results during the July 1998 initial operator licensing examination. This was the DAEC training department staff's second opportunity to develop an operator licensing examination under the guidelines contained in NUREG-1021, Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors, Interim Revision 8. The applicant passed the retake examination.

The high number of questions submitted by your staff that did not meet NUREG-1021 guidance demonstrated opportunities for improvement in your staff's examination writing skills and knowledge.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the Commission's regulations, a copy of this letter and the enclosures to this letter will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Sincerely,

Original /s/ D. E. Hills

David E. Hills, Chief
Operations Branch

Docket No. 50-331
License No. DPR-49

Enclosures: 1. Operator Licensing Examination Report 50-331/98301(OL)
2. Examination and Answer Key (RO)

See Attached Distribution

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cc w/encl 1: E. Protsch, Executive Vice President -
Energy Delivery, Alliant;
President, IES Utilities, Inc.
G. Van Middlesworth, Plant Manager
K. Peveler, Manager, Regulatory Performance
State Liaison Officer
Chairperson, Iowa Utilities Board

cc w/encs 1 & 2: K. D. Young, Training Department

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