The Honorable Ernest F. Hollings United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Hollings:

This letter is in response to your letter of May 14, 1986, to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), in which you enclosed a letter from Mr. M. D. Johnson concerning a recent reactor operator's examination which he failed. Mr. Johnson has appealed the grading of the examination and was concerned that a dispute between the Commission and the South Carolina Electric and Gas Company had influenced the Commission's decision on his request.

NRC examination procedures require the facility staff to be provided a copy of the written examination and the answer key subsequent to examination administration for their review and comments. The NRC considers all comments received from the facility prior to grading individual examinations. The facility comments and the NRC's resolutions to these comments are included in the final examination report. This procedure was followed for the examination in which Mr. Johnson participated. This examination review and the disposition of facility comments are apparently the "dispute" to which Mr. Johnson refers. Aside from the changes to the examination or answer key which may result from this review, there is no effect on the grading of individual examinations as a result of this process. Furthermore, NRC examination policy on the four questions Mr. Johnson references has not changed recently. We therefore feel that Mr. Johnson has not been denied a reactor operator license due to any dispute between the Commission and the South Carolina Electric and Gas Company.

Mr. Johnson's appeal is in progress and is being handled in accordance with the Operator Licensing Examiner Standards, NUREG-1021, in order to ensure an impartial and objective review. This procedure requires that Mr. Johnson's contentions be reviewed by an examiner who was not involved in the original examination. Mr. Johnson's appeal will be provided full consideration at each level of the review process.

The established procedure outlined above will ensure that Mr. Johnson's concerns are addressed and resolved expeditiously and impartially.

8606200001 860610 ADDCK 05000395

Sincerely,

DW/LRM1/GREEN TICKET 001768

Original signed by Victor Stella Victor Stello, Jr.

ED0 VStello 6/6/86

MRR: D/DIR

DHFT: OLB LRMiller:ah TLSzymanski 6/2/86 6/2 /86

BAB6ger

FHR wsome 6/3/86

DHFT:DIR WTRussell

DGEisenhut

/86

HRDenton /86

NRC FORM 318 (10/80) NRCM 0240

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

ACTION

## EDO PRINCIPAL CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL

FROM:

DUE: 06/10/86

EDO CONTROL: 001768

DOC DT: 05/14/86

FINAL REPLY:

TO:

CARLTON KAMMERER

SEN. ERNEST F. HOLLINGS

FOR SIGNATURE OF:

\*\* GREEN \*\*

SECY NO: 86-500

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DESC:

ROUTING:

ENCLOSES LETTER FROM MARK D. JOHNSON RE REACTOR OPERATOR'S EXAMINATION

GRACE TAYLOR GCUNNINGHAM

DATE: 05/27/86 ASSIGNED TO: NRR

CONTACT: DENTON

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

NAR RECEIVED: 05/28/86

ACTION:

DHFT - RUSSELL

NRR ROUTING.

DENTON/EISENHUT

PPAS

MOSSBURG/TOMS

## OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

PAPER NUMBER:

CRC-86-0500

LOGGING DATE: May 22 86

ACTION OFFICE:

EDO

AUTHOR:

E.F. Hollings--Const Ref

AFFILIATION:

U.S. SENATE

LETTER DATE:

May 14 86 FILE CODE: C&R-2 BP

SUBJECT:

Const feels that he is a victim of circumtances between the NRC and South Carolina Electric and Gas

Company

ACTION:

Direct Reply

DISTRIBUTION:

OCA to Ack

SPECIAL HANDLING: None

NOTES:

DATE DUE:

Jun 3 86

SIGNATURE:

AFFILIATION:

DATE SIGNED:

EDO --- 001768

Rec'd Off. EDO

5-27-86 2:00

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