

ERNEST F. HOLLINGS
SOUTH CAROLINA

OFFICES:

1835 ASSEMBLY STREET
COLUMBIA, SC 29201
803-765-5731

103 FEDERAL BUILDING
SPARTANBURG, SC 29301
803-585-3702

126 FEDERAL BUILDING
GREENVILLE, SC 29603
803-233-5368

112 CUSTOM HOUSE
200 EAST BAY STREET
CHARLESTON, SC 29401
803-724-4525

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803-662-8135

United States Senate

125 RUSSELL OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
202-224-6121

May 14, 1986

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THE JUDICIARY: RANKING DEMOCRAT
DEFENSE
LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
EDUCATION
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INTERIOR

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INTELLIGENCE

DEMOCRATIC POLICY COMMITTEE

OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT

NATIONAL OCEAN POLICY STUDY

Mr. Carlton C. Kammerer
Director
Office of Congressional Affairs
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
1717 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20555

05-395

Dear Mr. Kammerer:

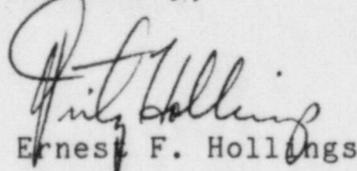
Please find enclosed a copy of a recent letter to me from one of my constituents, Mr. M. D. Johnson. Mr. Johnson recently took a reactor operator's examination. He believes that he was denied a passing grade because of a dispute between the Commission and the South Carolina Electric and Gas Company.

I am not familiar with the details of this case, but I would be grateful if the Commission could review his case to see if his position has merit. I would hate to see this man's career blocked if indeed he has been the victim of a larger dispute. I would appreciate hearing from you when the Commission makes its final decision regarding Mr. Johnson.

Thank you very much for looking into this matter. I appreciate the Commission's cooperation.

With best regards, I am

Sincerely,


Ernest F. Hollings

EFH:pwa

April 30, 1986

Senator Ernest Hollings
2818 Russell Office
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Hollings,

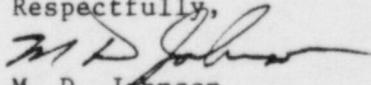
I have a problem with which I hope you could assist me. I am currently an Auxillary Operator with South Carolina Electric and Gas Company (SCE&G) at the V.C. Summer Nuclear Station. Last November, after successfully completing the required training courses for the second time, I had the opportunity to take the Operator Licensing exams. Having successfully completed the oral and simulator portions of the examination I was informed in January that I had failed the written portion of the exam. After reviewing the test with our training department, it was determined that 4 questions on the last section of the test were considered non-testable material. Therefore, we proceded to appeal the results of the exam. The appeal was denied.

We are currently awaiting a decision on a second appeal in effort to remove the 4 questions which stand between me and a license. The reason I am writing for your help is because I feel I have been caught in the middle of a dispute between the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and SCE&G.

As far as I can tell, the dispute was over plant procedures which the NRC had previously approved and what SCE&G considered testable material. Once in agreement, the NRC appears to have changed it's mind on what it considers testable material. All the operators concerned found out about this change during the examination. As a result of these 4 questions, SCE&G is currently altering their procedures to conform to the existing requirements of the NRC. However, after the NRC and SCE&G have resolved the problems concerning this issue, I am left out in the cold. I am extremely dissatisfied with the position I have been placed. I have worked too hard to achieve this goal just to see it evaporate because of politics between the NRC and SCE&G.

Enclosed is a copy of my appeals letter which should be at the NRC's headquarters in Bethesda. If you require further information, please feel free to contact me. Your help in this situation in any way at all will be greatly appreciated. My career is at a virtual standstill until this matter is resolved. Thank-you for taking time to read this letter. I hope to be hearing from you soon.

Respectfully,


M. D. Johnson
322 Emory Lane
Columbia, SC 29210
(803) 781-8436