

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37401

5N 157B Lookout Place

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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
Attn: Dr. J. Nelson Grace, Regional Administrator
101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 2900
Atlanta, Georgia 30323

Dear Dr. Grace:

OPERATOR LICENSING EXAMINATION CRITERIA FOR BROWNS FERRY (BFN) AND SEQUOYAH (SQN) NUCLEAR PLANTS

In the matter of operator licensing examinations currently scheduled for BFN and SQN during the remainder of 1986 and for 1987, TVA offers the following recommendations to NRC to resolve the issues concerning compliance with the criteria in NUREG-1021, Revision 2, Standard ES-109, paragraphs B.2.e. and f., and D.2.e. and f.

For the RO and instant SRO hot license examinations scheduled for the remainder of 1986, we request that NRC administer the examinations as scheduled. Candidates who pass the examinations, and subsequently obtain one month's experience at a power level of greater than 20 percent of full power at a similar plant, would be issued an operating license which is limited to modes 5 and 6 at SQN and the shutdown and refueling modes at BFN. Subsequent to plant restart, we request that NRC issue a full operating license to these individuals upon receipt of documentation attesting to performance of five reactivity changes at the licensees' respective plant.

In the case of the RO and instant SRO hot license examinations scheduled for 1987, we request that NRC administer examinations to candidates who have met the following requirements: (1) one month on shift at a similar operating facility at a power level of greater than 20 percent full power and (2) three months on shift as an extra person in the control room. We request that NRC issue a license with the same limitations as described above. Subsequent to plant restart, we request that NRC issue a full operating license upon receipt of documentation attesting to the performance of five reactivity changes at the licensees' plant. All license candidates have or will receive at least five weeks of training on the respective plant-referenced simulator.

In regard to the experience criteria stated above, TVA requests that NRC allow the one month's experience at greater than 20 percent of full power to be counted as one of the three months as an extra person on shift.

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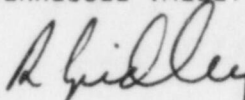
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We request that NRC give full consideration to our proposal and provide written concurrence to us. Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please get in touch with R. Joe Johnson, Director, Division of Nuclear Training, at 615-751-0400.

Very truly yours

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY



R. L. Gridley, Director
Nuclear Safety and Licensing

cc: Mr. Gary Zech, Director
TVA Projects
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 2900
Atlanta, Georgia 30323