

October 28, 1999

MEMORANDUM TO: James T. Wiggins, Deputy Regional Administrator, RI
Jon R. Johnson, Deputy Regional Administrator, RII
James L Caldwell, Deputy Regional Administrator, RIII
Thomas P. Gwynn, Deputy Regional Administrator, RIV

FROM: William M. Dean, Chief
Inspection Program Branch
Division of Inspection Program Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION MANUAL 1245, "INSPECTOR QUALIFICATION PROGRAM FOR THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION INSPECTION PROGRAM"

The Inspection Program Branch (IIPB) has recently received questions pertaining to the revisions made to IMC 1245. Based on the number of questions received we are providing additional information for your review and dissemination on the changes made.

IIPB received comments on IMC 1245 from Region II based on individuals who had recently completed the training qualification requirements for resident inspector. These comments were sent to all regions for their review and comment. IIPB received many comments back from the regions and will consider all comments when IMC 1245 is reviewed for a complete revision. This review will be done upon completion of the current pilot program now being implemented and completion of training that will be conducted prior to full scale implementation of the new program.

However, from the comments received, there were some changes that could be immediately implemented and these have been reflected in the changes made to IMC 1245 and issued by Change Notice 99-015. The changes that have been made are:

1. The Fundamentals of Inspection Refresher Course (G-102) has been deleted. Since all inspectors will be trained on the new Baseline Inspection Program process and routine counterpart meetings are a part of every region's standard operation, this course is no longer needed.
2. The Reactor Safety Course (R-800) has been made an elective course. The current PRA Technology Course (P-111) is more pertinent at this time for inspector qualification.
3. The Field Techniques and Regulatory Processes Course (G-103) has been deleted. This course needs to be revamped given that the revised oversight process is being piloted. The revision of this course will be addressed at a later date.

If there are further comments, please contact Cornie Holden of my staff (301-415-1288, e-mail CFH).

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* See previous concurrence.

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