

April 2, 2001

Mr. John K. Wood  
Vice President - Nuclear  
FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company  
P. O. Box 97, A200  
Perry, OH 44081

Dear Mr. Wood:

In response to your facility letters dated October 4, 1999, and May 10, 2000, we have tentatively scheduled initial licensing examinations for your operator license applicants at the Perry Nuclear Power Plant during the weeks of March 4 and March 11, 2002, and January 6 and January 13, 2003. Validation of the examinations will occur at the station during the weeks of February 18, 2002, and December 16, 2002, respectively. In the unlikely event that we are unable to support the examination during the scheduled weeks, we will inform you immediately upon discovery of such conditions and make arrangements to administer the examination at a mutually acceptable date.

As agreed upon in a telephone conversation between R. Strohl, Perry, and A. M. Stone, NRC, on January 3, 2001, your staff will develop the examinations. To support the examination administration dates, we have tentatively scheduled the dates of January 14, 2002, and December 2, 2002, respectively, to begin our review of your submitted examinations.

Your staff indicated you are training approximately 12 candidates for each examination. Please inform us if the number of candidates declines below 10 as this will impact the examination schedule. Please also inform us at your earliest opportunity if you discover you are unable to support the examination on the scheduled dates.

Once your staff has determined a schedule for examination development, please have them contact the Chief Examiner to arrange for a suitable examination outline submittal date for NRC review. The intent is for the examination outline to be submitted early in the examination development process. This is to preclude the need to make significant changes to developed examination material as a result of the NRC review of the outline. Mr. Jay A. Hopkins, has been tentatively assigned as the Chief Examiner for the March 2002 examinations and can be reached at 630-829-9739. Mr. Michael E. Bielby, Sr. has been tentatively assigned as the Chief Examiner for the January 2003 examinations and can be reached at 630-829-9762.

A supplementary letter will be sent to the training department approximately 120 days prior to the examination outlining examination security expectations, listing the materials required by the NRC to conduct the examination, reconfirming the examination dates, and reconfirming the number of candidates you have in the training program. If you have any questions concerning this information, please contact Mr. Jay A. Hopkins or my staff at 630-829-9739.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/ADAMS/index.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

David E. Hills, Chief  
Operations Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No. 50-440  
License No. NPF-58

cc: B. Saunders, President - FENOC  
N. Bonner, Director, Nuclear  
Maintenance Department  
G. Dunn, Manager, Regulatory Affairs  
K. Ostrowski, Director, Nuclear  
Services Department  
T. Rausch, Director, Nuclear  
Engineering Department  
R. Schrauder, General Manager,  
Nuclear Power Plant Department  
A. Schriber, Chairman, Ohio Public  
Utilities Commission  
Ohio State Liaison Officer  
R. Owen, Ohio Department of Health  
R. Collings, Training Department

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R. Collings, Training Department

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