

February 18, 2002

Mr. A. C. Bakken III
Senior Vice President
Nuclear Generation Group
American Electric Power Company
500 Circle Drive
Buchanan, MI 49107-1395

Dear Mr. Bakken:

Per discussions with Mick Brown of your staff on January 24, 2002, we have tentatively scheduled an initial licensing examination for your operator license applicants at the Donald C. Cook Nuclear Power Plant during the weeks of March 15 and March 23, 2004. Validation of the examination will occur at the station during the week of February 23, 2004. 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 on January 24, 2002, your staff will develop the examination. To support the examination administration date, we have tentatively scheduled the date of February 9, 2004, to begin our review of your submitted examination.

Your letter indicated you are training approximately 12 candidates for the 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. Michael E. Bielby has been tentatively assigned as the Chief Examiner 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 Michael E. Bielby of my staff at 630-829-9762.

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 Nos. 50-315; 50-316
License Nos. DPR-58; DPR-74

cc: J. Pollock, Plant Manager
M. Rencheck, Vice President, Strategic Business Improvements
R. Whale, Michigan Public Service Commission
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Emergency Management Division
MI Department of State Police
D. Lochbaum, Union of Concerned Scientists
B. Wallace, Training Department

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M. Rencheck, Vice President, Strategic Business Improvements
R. Whale, Michigan Public Service Commission
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D. Lochbaum, Union of Concerned Scientists
B. Wallace, Training Department

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