



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

February 13, 1986

TO ALL POWER REACTOR LICENSEES AND APPLICANTS FOR POWER REACTOR LICENSES

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: POLICY STATEMENT ON ENGINEERING EXPERTISE ON SHIFT
(GENERIC LETTER 86-04)

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with a copy of the Federal Register notice of the Policy Statement on Engineering Expertise on Shift, and to give you an opportunity to transmit your plans regarding modifications to your current program in light of the options now available as a result of the Policy Statement.

The Policy Statement offers the licensees two options for meeting the current requirements for providing engineering expertise on shift (NUREG-0737, Item I.A.1.1) and meeting licensed operator staffing requirements (10 CFR 50.54 (m)(2)). Option 1 provides for elimination of the separate Shift Technical Advisor (STA) position by allowing licensees to combine one of the required Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) positions with the STA position into a dual-role (SRO/STA) position. Option 2 states that a licensee may continue to use an NRC-approved STA program while meeting licensed operator staffing requirements. Licensees may use either option on each shift.

The Commission encourages licensees to move toward the dual-role (SRO/STA) position, with the eventual goal of the Shift Supervisor serving in the dual role. However, the Commission realizes that some licensees may prefer the dedicated STA position for a number of reasons. If this latter option is chosen, then the Commission encourages licensees to work towards having the dedicated STA assume an active role in shift activities by having the STAs rotate with a shift and by including responsibilities to review plant logs, participate in shift turnover activities and training, and maintain an awareness of plant configuration and status.

So that the NRC can be aware of the current status of, and future plans for, the STA and dual-role programs in the industry, we would appreciate your response within 90 days concerning your intentions. Specifically:

1. Your current program for providing engineering expertise on shift;
2. If your current STA program utilizes an "equivalency" criteria to an engineering degree, a description of the criteria used; and,
3. A description of any modifications you intend to propose to your current program in order to take advantage of the options identified in the Commission's Policy Statement.

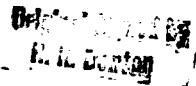
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This request for information was approved by the Office of Management and Budget under clearance number 3150-0011 which expires September 30, 1986. Comments on burden and duplication may be directed to the Office of Management and Budget, Report Management Room 3201, New Executive Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20503.

Please direct your response to the appropriate Licensing Project Manager with a copy to F. Rowsome, Division of Human Factors Technology. If you need additional information on the Policy Statement, please contact Dan Jones at 301-492-4879. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,


H. R. Denton

Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
Policy Statement on Engineering
Expertise on Shift

DW/JJP5/POLICY STATEMENT

NRB

WDR

OFFICE	MTB/DHFT	MTB/DHFT	HFIB/DHFT	DO/DHFT	D/DHFT	DD/NRR	D/NRR
SURNAME	JPersensky/br	HBooher	FRowsome	DZiemann	WRussell	BEisenhut	HDenton
DATE	2/6/86	2/6/86	2/6/86	2/1/86	2/1/86	2/13/86	2/1/86