

UTILITY EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

P. O. BOX 258

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23202

MARCH 18, 1980

Mr. Walter P. Haas, Chief
Quality Assurance Branch
Division of Project Management
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Mr. Haas:

The Utility Employees Association (UEA), as the labor collective bargaining representative of the Quality Assurance employees at the Surry Nuclear Power Station, has a dispute with the Virginia Electric and Power Company (VEPCo) concerning the issue of qualification testing of employees without any prior formal training.

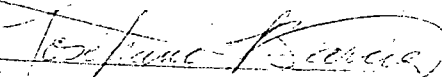
In this dispute, VEPCo maintains that the NRC only requires that Quality Assurance personnel be tested for qualification and does not require any type of formal training. The UEA maintains that both formal training and then testing are required by the NRC and is the only way to ensure both proficiency and qualification.

VEPCo has established proficiency by giving the Quality Assurance personnel at Surry a written test. All employees involved have taken and passed this test. However, these employees maintain that merely taking an arbitrary test does not show proficiency to do the job properly, especially a test which the employees themselves worked and helped in developing the questions. This is the reason the Quality Assurance personnel at Surry have asked for additional training which is why the UEA is having this dispute with VEPCo.

We would appreciate it if you would investigate this matter and give us your interpretation of the NRC regulations regarding training and qualification testing.

It is our goal that employees performing Quality Assurance functions should be able to ensure that such work is carried out in a safe and efficient manner. Due to the importance of this dispute, we would appreciate your immediate attention to this matter. We have notified VEPCo that we will abide by the NRC interpretation of the requirements.

Respectfully yours,



Jose F. Barcia, Chairman
Board of Trustees

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