

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

July 2, 1979

SECY 79-3300

INFORMATION REPORT

For: The Commission

From: Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Thru: Executive Director for Operations *TAR for L.V.G.*

Subject: RESULTS OF EXAMINATIONS ADMINISTERED TO LICENSED OPERATORS AS PART OF THE REQUALIFICATION PROGRAM

Purpose: To inform the Commission of the results of examinations administered to licensed operators in facility administered requalification programs.

Discussion: In a memorandum from Samuel J. Chilk to Lee V. Gossick dated April 30, 1979, NRR was requested to inform the Commission regarding seven items relating to procedures for qualifying reactor operators. This response pertains to items 4 and 5 of the subject letter which requests testing results during the licensed operator requalification programs which are in effect at all operating facilities.

This information was obtained from facility responses to IE Bulletin 79-10, Requalification Training Program Statistics, dated May 10, 1979.

Responses have been received from all operating facilities (47 sites, 66 units). Data was obtained for the last four annual requalification examinations or less than four examinations if a facility had not administered four examinations. Fifty-four facilities had administered four annual examinations, seven facilities had administered less than three examinations. The total number of written examinations administered was 250 operator examinations and 250 senior operator examinations. Each of these examinations was administered to all the licensed individuals at their facility.

The data indicates that 25 licensed operators at 15 sites failed a written examination. This number of failures represented 1.4% of the total number of operator written examinations administered.

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Also, the data indicated that 28 licensed senior operators at 15 sites failed a written examination. This number of failures represented 1.2% of the total number of senior operator written examinations administered. An overall grade of 70% or greater is a passing grade on both the operator and senior operator examinations.

Requalification programs require accelerated training if an individual has an overall grade of less than 70% on the annual written examination. The data indicated that 25 licensed operators and 26 senior operators successfully completed accelerated training programs. Two senior operators were not given accelerated training since one individual was transferred to an unlicensed position and one terminated his employment.

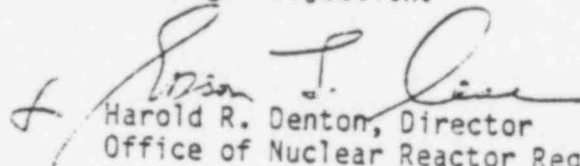
The written examinations are divided into seven or more categories depending upon each facility's philosophy and any individual scoring less than 80% in a category is required to attend lectures on that subject.

The data indicated that 62.9% of the operators and 50.6% of the senior operators had at least one category or more below 80% and therefore were required to attend lectures.

Of those required to attend lectures, the minimum number of lectures attended per individual was one to a maximum of 11. The average number of lectures attended per individual was less than two.

The requalification programs require a systematic observation and evaluation of the performance and competency of licensed operators and senior operators including evaluations of actions taken or to be taken during actual or simulated abnormal and emergency conditions. Normally, this evaluation consists of an oral examination administered by designated facility station supervisory personnel. Accelerated training is required if an individual is evaluated to be unsatisfactory. The data indicated that three licensed operators and one senior operator received an unsatisfactory rating on the performance evaluation, and therefore received accelerated training.

COORDINATION: This paper has been reviewed by the Office of the Executive Legal Director, which has no legal objection.


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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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