



ARKANSAS POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

FIRST COMMERCIAL BUILDING/P.O. BOX 551/LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72203/(501) 371-4422

June 29, 1984

JOHN M. GRIFFIN
Senior Vice President
Energy Supply

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Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

SUBJECT: Arkansas Nuclear One - Units 1 & 2
Docket Nos. 50-313 and 50-368
License Nos. DPR-51 and NPF-6
Licensing Examination

Gentlemen:

I have received your June 6, 1984, letter to Mr. Zack Pate regarding operator licensing and requalification examinations at Arkansas Nuclear One Unit-2. Due to my personal interest in this area, I shared the concerns expressed by both you and Mr. Collins and have recently conducted a review of the circumstances of the March 20, 1984, ANO-2 license examination.

I am concerned that this anomaly in the Arkansas Nuclear One Unit-2 license examination process has been viewed by the staff as a potential programmatic problem with the Arkansas Nuclear One training program and the INPO accreditation process. My review did not indicate overall weakness of the Arkansas Nuclear One training program, but rather an inconsistency in the training program and examination philosophy in one specific area of the exam. Specifically, the March 20, 1984, examination required a greater degree of rote memorization of procedures than had been anticipated by our candidates or our training staff. As discussed in my June 28, 1984 letter to Mr. Collins, my staff is working closely with the Region IV staff to assure that our training program provides a level of detail consistent with the staff's examination philosophy in this area. I strongly feel that the long-term results of the Arkansas Nuclear One training program will substantiate the high quality of the program and the value of INPO accreditation. As indicated above, my staff is working with the Region IV staff in reviewing the examination results and would welcome the involvement of your Operators Licensing staff.

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MEMBER MIDDLE SOUTH UTILITIES SYSTEM

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June 29, 1984

I have a strong conviction that a quality training program is the connerstone of safe operations. AP&L is committed to a quality training program and is expending the resources necessary to achieve that objective. However, training needs are dynamic, and we must meet new challenges daily. I assure you our program will continue to strive for quality in every aspect.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "John M. Griffin". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

John M. Griffin

JMG/JRM/ac

cc: Mr. John Collins
Mr. Zack Pate