



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION II  
SAM NUNN ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER  
61 FORSYTH STREET SW SUITE 23T85  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8931

August 1, 2000

Tennessee Valley Authority  
ATTN: Mr. J. A. Scalice  
Chief Nuclear Officer and  
Executive Vice President  
6A Lookout Place  
1101 Market Street  
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

SUBJECT: NRC EXAMINATION REPORT NOS. 50-259/2000-301, 50-260/2000-301 AND  
50-296/2000-301

Dear Mr. Scalice:

During the period June 12-16 and June 27-29, 2000, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) administered operating examinations to employees of your company who had applied for licenses to operate the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Units 1, 2 and 3. At the conclusion of the examination, the examiners discussed the examination questions and preliminary findings with those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report. The written examination was administered by your staff on June 30, 2000.

All ten of the Reactor Operator and all five of the Senior Reactor Operator applicants passed both the written and operating examinations. Simulation Facility Report is included in this report as Enclosure 2.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures 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/ADAMS/index.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Harold O. Christensen, Chief  
Operator Licensing and  
Human Performance Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos.: 50-259, 50-260, 50-296  
License Nos.: DPR-33, DPR-52, DPR-68

Enclosures: (See page 2)

- Enclosures: 1. Report Details  
2. Simulation Facility Report

cc w/encls:

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION II

Docket Nos.: 50-259, 50-260, and 50-296

License Nos.: DPR-33, DPR-52, and DPR-68

Report Nos.: 50-259/2000-301, 50-260 /2000-301 and 50-296/2000-301

Licensee: Tennessee Valley Authority

Facility: Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant Units 1, 2 and 3

Location: Athens, Alabama

Dates: Operating Tests - June 12 through June 15, 2000  
June 27 through June 29, 2000  
Written Examination - June 30, 2000

Examiners: R. Baldwin, Chief License Examiner  
R. Aiello, License Examiner  
E. Lea, License Examiner  
J. Munro, License Examiner

Approved by: H. Christensen, Chief  
Operator Licensing and Human Performance Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

### Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant

NRC Inspection Reports 50-259/2000-301, 50-260 /2000-301 and 50-296/2000-301

During the period June 12 through 15 and June 27 through 29, 2000, NRC examiners conducted an announced operator licensing initial examination in accordance with the guidance of Examiner Standards, NUREG-1021, Revision 8. This examination implemented the operator licensing requirements of 10 CFR §55.41, §55.43, and §55.45. No significant issues were identified.

Ten Reactor Operator applicants and five Senior Reactor Operator applicants received written examinations and operating tests. The NRC administered the operating tests during the weeks of June 12, 2000 and June 26, 2000. The licensee administered the written examination on June 30, 2000.

## Report Details

Summary of Plant Status: Unit 1 and Unit 2 were at 100% throughout the examination period.

### 4. OTHER ACTIVITIES

#### 4OA5 Other

##### a. Scope

The NRC conducted a regular, announced operator licensing initial examinations during the period of June 12 - 15 and June 27 - 30, 2000. Ten RO applicants and five SRO applicants received written and operating examinations. The examiners reviewed your training department's procedures and practices to ensure examination security and integrity.

##### b. Observations and Findings

The NRC staff developed the operating test and written examination in accordance with NUREG 1021, Revision 8. Your staff reviewed the proposed examinations making modifications as needed. The NRC administered the approved operating tests during the periods of June 12 - 15, 2000 and June 27 - 29, 2000. Your staff administered the approved written examination on June 30, 2000. There were no findings regarding examination security.

All ten RO and five SRO applicants passed both examinations. The licensee submitted the as-given written examinations and post-examination comments (ADAMS Accession Number: ML003735363) on the written examinations. The NRC resolved and accepted all comments (ADAMS Accession Number: ML003735199) and revised the final RO and SRO written examination answer keys accordingly (ADAMS Accession Number: ML003733877).

#### 4OA6 Management Meetings

##### Exit Meeting Summary

The Chief Examiner presented the preliminary examination results on June 30, 2000, to members of licensee management. The licensee acknowledged the examination results presented.

The inspectors asked the licensee whether any materials examined during the inspection should be considered proprietary. No proprietary information was identified.

## PARTIAL LIST OF PERSONS CONTACTED

### Licensee

T. Abney, Site Licensing & Industry Affairs Manager  
A. Bhatnagar, Site Support Manager  
T. Chin, Operations Training Manager  
J. Corey, Radchem Manager  
T. Cornelius, Emergency Preparedness Manager  
J. Herron, Site Vice President  
E. Hollins, Senior Outage Manager  
R. Jones, Plant Manager  
G. Little, Plant Operations Manager  
D. Matherly, Plant Manager  
G. Moody, Site Licensing Engineer  
R. Norton, Site Quality Manager  
J. Parshall, Lead Instructor  
D. Sanchez, Training Manager  
R. Wiggall, Site Engineering Manager  
R. Wright, Design Engineering Manager

### NRC

E. Lea, License Examiner  
J. Munro, License Examiner  
W. Smith, Senior Resident Inspector  
J. Starefos, Resident Inspector

## SIMULATION FACILITY REPORT

Facility Licensee: Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant Units 1, 2 and 3

Facility Docket Nos.: 50-259/2000-301, 50-260/2000-301 and 50-296/2000-301

Operating Tests Administered on: June 12 through 15, 2000 and June 27 through 29, 2000

This form is to be used only to report observations. These observations do not constitute audit or inspection findings and are not, without further verification and review, indicative of noncompliance with 10 CFR 55.45(b). These observations do not affect NRC certification or approval of the simulation facility other than to provide information that may be used in future evaluations. No licensee action is required in response to these observations.

While conducting the simulator portion of the operating tests, the following items were observed:

ITEM

DESCRIPTION

None