



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV
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December 4, 2000

Mr. J. V. Parrish (Mail Drop 1023)
Chief Executive Officer
Energy Northwest
P.O. Box 968
Richland, Washington 99352-0968

SUBJECT: WNP-2 NRC INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSING RETAKE EXAMINATION
No. 50-397/00-302

Dear Mr. Parrish:

In a telephone conversation on November 27, 2000, between Messrs. T. McKernon, Chief Examiner, and S. Hutchison, Operations Training, arrangements were made for the administration of licensing retake examinations at your WNP-2 during the week of February 19, 2001. This retake examination will involve written examinations for a reactor operator and a senior operator applicant, as well as, an Administrative Category A test for the senior operator applicant. In accordance with Section D.1.a of ES-204 of NUREG-1021, the NRC regional office intends to waive Categories B and C of the operating test for the senior operator applicant, upon proper application. As a result, the operating test will include only the administrative portion, as noted above.

As agreed during the telephone conversation, your staff will prepare the examinations based on the guidelines in Revision 8, Supplement 1 of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." The NRC regional office will discuss with your staff any changes that might be necessary before the examinations are administered.

To meet the above schedule, it will be necessary for your staff to furnish the examination outlines and the written examinations, administrative test, and the supporting reference materials identified in Attachment 2 of ES-201 by January 25, 2001. Pursuant to 10 CFR 55.40(b)(3), an authorized representative of the facility licensee shall approve the outlines, examinations, and tests before they are submitted to the NRC for review and approval. All materials shall be complete and ready-to-use. Any delay in receiving the required examination and reference materials, or the submittal of inadequate or incomplete materials, may cause the examinations to be rescheduled. Additionally, an NRC examiner will be onsite to administer the Category A portion of the operating examination to the senior operator applicant on February 22, 2001.

In order to conduct the requested written examinations and operating test, it will be necessary for your staff to provide adequate space and accommodations in accordance with ES-402, and to make the simulation facility available on the dates noted above.

Appendix E of NUREG-1021 contains a number of NRC policies and guidelines that will be in effect while the written examinations and operating tests are being administered.

To permit timely NRC review and evaluation, your staff should submit reactor operator and senior reactor operator license applications (Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval number 3150-0090), medical certifications (OMB approval number 3150-0024), and waiver requests (OMB approval number 3150-0090) at least 15 days before the first examination date, February 22, 2001, no later than February 7, 2001. If the applications are not received at least 15 days before the examination date, a postponement may be necessary.

This letter contains information collections that are subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). These information collections were approved by the Office of Management and Budget, approval number 3150-3150-0018, which expires on April 30, 2003.

The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 500 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining the data needed, writing the examinations, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments on any aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Information and Records Management Branch (T-6 F33), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, or by Internet electronic mail at BJS1@NRC.GOV; and to the Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, NEOB-10202, (3150-0101), Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

The NRC may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Mr. S. Hutchinson has been advised of the policies and guidelines referenced in this letter. If you have any questions regarding the NRC's examination procedures and guidelines, please contact Mr. T. McKernon at 817-860-8153, or me at 817-860-8159.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Mr. John L. Pellet, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No.: 50-397
License No.: NPF-21

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