



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION II
SAM NUNN ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
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ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8931**

January 23, 2001

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: REACTOR OPERATOR RETAKE EXAMINATION AT SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR
PLANT - 50-327/2001-301 AND 50-328/2001-301**

Dear Mr. Scalice:

In a telephone conversation on January 22, 2001 between Mr Scott Poteet, Shift Operations Supervisor Instructor and Mr. Ronald F. Aiello, Senior Operations Engineer, arrangements were made for the administration of a retake licensing examination at the Sequoyah Nuclear Plant during the week of March 12, 2001.

As agreed during the telephone conversation, your staff will prepare the examination 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 outline, walk-through portion of the operating test and the supporting reference material by February 19, 2001. Pursuant to 10 CFR 55.40(b)(3), an authorized representative of the facility licensee shall approve the outline, examination, and test before it is submitted to the NRC for review and approval. All material shall be complete and ready-to-use. Any delay in receiving the required examination and reference material, or the submittal of inadequate or incomplete materials, may cause the examinations to be rescheduled.

In order to conduct the requested walk-through portion of the operating test, it will be necessary for your staff to make the simulation facility available on March 14 and 15, 2001. In accordance with ES-302, your staff should retain the original simulator performance data (e.g., system pressures, temperatures, and levels) generated during the operating test, as applicable, until the examination results are final.

To permit timely NRC review and evaluation, your staff should submit preliminary reactor operator license application (Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval number 3150-0090), medical certifications (OMB approval number 3150-0024), and waiver requests (if any) (OMB approval number 3150-0090) at least 30 days before the first examination date. If the application is not received at least 30 days before the examination date, a postponement may

be necessary. The signed application certifying that all training has been completed should be submitted at least 14 days before the first examination date.

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 3150-0018, 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 BJ51@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. Scott Poteet 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 Ron Aiello at (404)562-4641, (Internet E-mail: rfa@nrc.gov), or myself at (404) 562-4638, (Internet E-mail: Mee@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

/RA/

Michael E. Ernstes, Chief
Operator Licensing and
Human Performance Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-327, 50-328
License Nos. DPR-77, DPR-79

cc: (See page 3)

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