



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

TVA

March 6, 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 AND SENIOR REACTOR OPERATOR INITIAL EXAMINATIONS
WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT - 50-390/2001-301 AND 50-391/2001-301

Dear Mr. Scalice:

During the period January 29 - February 6, 2001, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) administered operating examinations to employees of your company who had applied for licenses to operate Watts Bar Nuclear Plant Unit 1. 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 January 26, 2001.

All seven of the Reactor Operator applicants and all six of the Senior Reactor Operator applicants passed both the written and operating examinations. A 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/
Michael E. Ernstes, Chief
Operator Licensing and
Human Performance Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos.: 50-390, 50-391
License Nos.: NPF-90, CPPR-92

Enclosures: (See page 2)
Enclosures: 1. Report Details

2. Simulation Facility Report

cc w/encls:

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OFFICE	RII:DRS	RII:DRS	RII:DRS	RII:DRS	RII:DRP		
SIGNATURE	/RA/	/RA/	/RA/	/RA/	/RA/		
NAME	RAiello:pmd	GSalyers	MMiller	MErnstes	PFredrickson		
DATE	2/21/2001	2/28/2001	2/28/2001	3/6/2001	3/6/2001		
E-MAIL COPY?	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO

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DOCUMENT NAME: C:\final-wb2001-301 (rfa) exam~.wpd

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION II

Docket Nos.: 50-390, 50-391
License Nos.: NPF-90 and Construction Permit CPPR-92

Report Nos.: 50-390/01-301, 50-391/01-301

Licensee: Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA)

Facility: Watts Bar Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2

Location: 1260 Nuclear Plant Road
Spring City, TN 37381

Dates: Operating Tests - January 29 - February 6, 2001
Written Examination - January 26, 2001

Examiners: Ron Aiello, Chief License Examiner
Glen Salyers, License Examiner
Mark Miller, Senior License Examiner
Steve Rose, License Examiner Trainee
Kathleen O'Donohue, License Examiner Trainee
Gerry Laska, License Examiner Trainee

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

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Watts Bar Nuclear Plant
NRC Inspection Report 50-390/01-301 and 50-391/01-301

During the period January 29 - February 6, 2001, NRC examiners conducted an announced operator licensing initial examination in accordance with the guidance of Examiner Standards, NUREG-1021, Revision 8, supplement 1, addendum 1. This examination implemented the operator licensing requirements of 10 CFR §55.41, §55.43, and §55.45. No findings of significance were identified.

Seven Reactor Operator applicants and six Senior Reactor Operator applicants received written examinations and operating tests. The NRC administered the operating tests during the period January 29 - February 6, 2001. The licensee administered the written examination on January 26, 2001. All of the applicants passed the examination.

Report Details

4. OTHER ACTIVITIES (OA)

4OA5 Operator Licensing Initial Examinations

a. Inspection Scope

The NRC conducted a regular, announced operator licensing initial examination during the period January 29 - February 6, 2001. Seven RO applicants and six SRO applicants received written and operating examinations. The examiners reviewed the facility's training department's security procedure, TRN-11.14, TVA Operator Licensing Examination Security Program, and actual practices to ensure examination security and integrity.

b. Findings

The facility training staff developed the written and operating examinations in accordance with NUREG 1021, Revision 8, Supplement 1, Addendum 1. The examiners reviewed the proposed examinations, making modifications as needed. The NRC administered the operating exams during the period January 29 - February 6, 2001. The facility training staff administered the approved written examination on January 26, 2001. There were no findings regarding examination security.

All of the applicants passed both the written and the operating examinations. Details of each applicant's deficiencies are described in the individual's examination report, Form ES-303-1, "Operator Licensing Examination Report." A copy of each applicant's examination report was forwarded under separate cover to the Training Manager to enable the licensee to evaluate these deficiencies, and provide any remedial training deemed necessary.

The written examinations and answer keys may be accessed in the ADAMS system under ADAMS Accession Number ML010460130. During the written examination, a technical enhancement was made to question number 1 on both the RO and SRO written examinations to eliminate a distractor ambiguity.

4OA6 Meetings

Exit Meeting Summary

The Chief Examiner presented the preliminary examination results to B. Lagergren, Watts Bar Nuclear Plant, Site Vice President and to members of licensee management on February 6, 2001. The licensee acknowledged the examination results presented.

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

PARTIAL LIST OF PERSONS CONTACTED

Licensee

J. Baker, Operations Training Manager
L. Bryant, Plant Manager
J. Cox, Training Manager
D. Kulisek, Operations Manager
K. Lovell, Simulator Manager
B. Lagergren, WBN Site Vice President
P. Pace, Licensing Affairs Manager
J. Roden, Operations Superintendent

SIMULATION FACILITY REPORT

Facility Licensee: Watts Bar Nuclear Plant Unit 1
Facility Docket Nos.: 50-390, 50-391

Operating Tests Administered on: January 29 - February 6, 2001

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. While conducting the simulator portion of the operating tests, no significant fidelity or configuration items were observed.