

June 29, 2001

Mr. M. Reddemann  
Site Vice President  
Kewaunee and Point Beach Nuclear Plants  
Nuclear Management Company, LLC  
6610 Nuclear Road  
Two Rivers, WI 54241

SUBJECT: KEWAUNEE NUCLEAR POWER PLANT  
NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-305/01-301(DRS)

Dear Mr. Reddemann:

On May 17, 2001, the NRC completed initial operator licensing retake examinations at your Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant. The enclosed report presents the results of the examination.

NRC examiners administered the retake written examination on May 16, 2001, and the operating test on May 15 and May 17, 2001. One reactor operator applicant and one senior reactor operator applicant were administered license examinations.

The results of the examinations were finalized on June 5, 2001. Both applicants passed the applicable sections of their respective retake examinations and were issued applicable operator licenses.

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 the NRC's document control system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/ADQAMS/index.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).





U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION III

Docket No: 50-305  
License No: DPR-43

Report No: 50-305/01-301

Licensee: Nuclear Management Company, LLC

Facility: Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant

Location: N 490 Highway 42  
Kewaunee, WI 54216

Dates: May 15 through May 17, 2001

Examiners: A. M. Stone, Chief Examiner

Approved by: David E. Hills, Chief  
Operations Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

ER 05000305-01-301(DRS), on 05/14-05/17/2001, Nuclear Management Company, LLC, Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant. Initial Operator License Examination Report.

The announced operator licensing initial retake examination was conducted by a regional examiner in accordance with the guidance of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 8, Supplement 1.

### Examination Summary:

- One reactor operator applicant was administered a retake written examination and one senior reactor operator applicant was administered a retake written examination and operating test for initial operator licensing. Both applicants passed the applicable sections of their respective retake examinations and were issued applicable operator licenses (Section 4OA5.1).

## Report Details

### **4. OTHER ACTIVITIES (OA)**

#### 4OA5 Other

##### .1 Initial Licensing Examinations

###### a. Inspection Scope

The NRC examiners conducted announced retake operator licensing initial examinations on May 15 through May 17, 2001. The NRC staff used the guidance established in NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 8, Supplement 1, to prepare the examination outline and to develop the written examination and operating test. The NRC examiners administered the operating test on May 15, 2001, and May 17, 2001, and also administered the written examination on May 16, 2001. One reactor operator applicant and one senior reactor operator applicant were examined.

###### b. Findings

###### Written Examination

The NRC examiners determined that the written examination, as originally submitted by the licensee, was within the range of acceptability expected for a proposed examination. No post examination comments were submitted by the licensee.

###### Operating Test

The NRC examiners determined that the operating test, as originally submitted by the licensee, was within the range of acceptability expected for a proposed examination. No post examination comments were submitted by the licensee.

###### Examination Results

Both candidates passed all sections of their respective retake examinations and were issued applicable operator licenses.

##### .2 Examination Security

###### a. Inspection Scope

The examiners reviewed and observed the licensee's implementation of examination security requirements during the examination preparation and administration.

b. Findings

The NRC examiners determined that the licensee's examination security practices associated with the development and administration of the operator license examinations were satisfactory. No significant issues were identified.

- .3 (Closed) URI 50-305/200010-01(DRS): The inspectors determined that the licensee's practice of exempting newly licensed operators from taking the annual operating test during the calendar year in which the licenses were issued and received was acceptable. Therefore, this issue is closed.
- .4 (Closed) URI 50-305/200010-02(DRS): The purpose of this unresolved item was to obtain clarification of the applicable NRC requirements with respect to proficiency watches. The inspectors had noted that some licensed operators truncated their last proficiency watch tour by serving only eight hours of the 12-hour shift. For example, during the first quarter of 2000, one individual worked four 12-hour shifts then truncated the last watch once a total of 56 hours was served. This practice was in accordance with the licensee's procedures. After consultation with the NRR/Operator Licensing personnel, the inspectors determined that the licensee's practice of truncating proficiency watch shifts was contrary to 10 CFR 55.53(e) which states, in part, that an individual licensee shall actively perform the functions of an operator or senior operator on a minimum of seven 8-hour or five 12-hour shifts per calendar quarter. Clarification to this requirement was provided in a Question and Answer document which can be obtained at: <http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/REACTOR/OL/OLhome.html>). One question and answer located in the ES-605 section addressed this issue and stated the 10 CFR 55.53(e) requirement for licensed operators to maintain their proficiency may be satisfied with a combination of complete 8- and 12-hour shifts (in a position required by the plant's technical specifications) at sites having a mixed shift schedule. The clarification also stated that watches shall not be truncated when the minimum quarterly requirement (56 hours) is satisfied. The inspectors noted that operating crews at Kewaunee Power Plant were on 12-shift rotations, not mixed, and that several individual licensees served a combination of 8- and 12-hour shifts. Serving a combination of shifts and/or truncating after 56 hours is contrary to 10 CFR 55.53(e). Although this issue should be corrected, it constitutes a violation of minor significance that is not subject to enforcement action in accordance with Section IV of the NRC's Enforcement Policy. Therefore, this issue is closed.

4OA6 Management Meetings

Exit Meeting Summary

The chief examiner presented the examination team's preliminary observations and findings to Mr. Baldwin and other members of the licensee management on May 17, 2001. The licensee acknowledged the observations and findings presented. No proprietary or safeguards information was identified during the exit meeting.

The chief examiner discussed the results of the examination with Mr. Parks Walker on June 6, 2001.

## KEY POINTS OF CONTACT

### Licensee

J. Bly, Senior Operations Instructor  
G. Baldwin, Senior Operations Instructor - Exam Development Coordinator  
G. Harrington, Licensing Lead

### NRC

Z. Dunham, Kewaunee Resident Inspector

## ITEMS OPENED, CLOSED AND DISCUSSED

### Closed

50-305/200010-01(DRS)	URI	Clarification of 10 CFR 55.59(a)(2) with respect to requirement to take first operating test after receiving an NRC license.
50-305/200010-02(DRS)	URI	Clarification of 10 CFR 55.53(e) with respect to serving a combination of shifts and/or truncating after 56 hours

## LIST OF ACRONYMS

ADAMS	Agency-Wide Document Access and Management System
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CR	Condition Report
DRS	Division of Reactor Safety
EOP	Emergency Operating Procedure
NRC	Nuclear Regulatory Commission
NRR	Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
PARS	Publicly Available Records
URI	Unresolved Item

WRITTEN EXAMINATIONS AND ANSWER KEYS (RO/SRO)

RO Exam ADAMS Accession # ML011800274  
SRO Exam ADAMS Accession # ML011800222