



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

**REGION II
SAM NUNN ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET SW SUITE 23T85
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8931**

October 18, 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: BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT - NRC EXAMINATION REPORT NOS.
50-259/2001-301, 50-260/2001-301 AND 50-296/2001-301

Dear Mr. Scalice:

On September 19, 2001, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed administration of operating examinations to employees of your company who had applied for licenses to operate the Browns Ferry Nuclear Station Units 1, 2, and 3. The enclosed report documents the examination results and findings which were discussed on September 19, 2001, with members of your staff.

The Senior Reactor Operator and all four Reactor Operator applicants passed both the written and operating examinations. The facility had one written and no operating test post-examination comments.

No findings of significance were identified.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure 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.: 50-259, 50-260, 50-296
License Nos.: DPR-33, DPR-52, DPR-68

Enclosures: (See page 2)

Enclosures: 1. Examination Report
2. Browns Ferry Post Examination Comment Resolution

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Enclosure 1

REGION II

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

Report Nos.: 50-259/2001-301, 50-260/2001-301, 50-296/2001-301

Licensee: Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA)

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

Location: Corner of Shaw and Nuclear Plant Roads
Athens, AL 35611

Dates: Operating Tests - September 17 - 19, 2001
Written Examination - September 21, 2001

Examiners: L. Mellen, Chief, Senior Operations Engineer
R. Baldwin, Senior Operations Engineer
G. Laska, Operations Engineer

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

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The operator licensing initial examinations were developed and administered by NRC examiners in accordance with the guidance of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 8, Supplement 1. The examination implemented the operator licensing requirements of 10 CFR §55.41, §55.43, and §55.45.

One Senior Reactor Operator and four Reactor Operator applicants were administered written examinations and operating tests. All of the applicants passed the examination and were issued operator licenses commensurate with the level of examination administered.

There was one post-examination comment on the written examination. There were three JPMs and one SRO written question that were replaced during the examination preparation process based on NRC identified procedural discrepancies.

No significant findings were identified.

Report Details

4. OTHER ACTIVITIES (OA)

4OA5 Operator Licensing Initial Examinations

a. Scope

Operating tests and written examinations were developed by the NRC, in accordance with NUREG 1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 8, Supplement 1. The draft examinations were transmitted to the site for review, validation, and comment. Examination changes agreed upon between the NRC and the licensee were made according to NUREG-1021 and incorporated into the final version of the examination materials. The NRC administered the operating tests during the period of September 17 - 19, 2001 to one Senior Reactor Operator Upgrade and four Reactor Operator applicants. The licensee staff administered the approved written examination on September 21, 2001. The examiners reviewed the examination security measures to ensure examination security and integrity.

b. Issues and Findings

No findings of significance were identified.

All of the applicants passed both examinations and were issued operator licenses commensurate with the level of examination administered. Details of each applicant's deficiencies are described in the individual's examination report, Form ES-303-1, "Operator Licensing Examination Report." Copies of these evaluations were forwarded under separate cover to the Training Manager to allow evaluation of noted deficiencies so that appropriate remedial training may be provided, as necessary.

The licensee submitted one post-examination comment on the written examination (ADAMS Accession Number ML012830175). The comment was resolved and the answer key was adjusted. There were three Job Performance Measures (JPMs) and one SRO question that were replaced based on NRC identified procedural discrepancies during the examination preparation process. The licensee has evaluated the discrepancies and has either revised the procedures or issued problem evaluation reports for each of the discrepancies.

The licensee was provided a copy of the as-given written examinations (ADAMS Accession Numbers ML012830175 and ML012830183).

4OA6 Meetings

Exit Meeting Summary

The Chief Examiner presented the preliminary examination results on September 19, 2001, 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.

LIST OF PERSONS CONTACTED

*T. Albright, Simulator Services Manager
*T. Chinn, Operations Training Manager
*D. Glover Nuclear Training
*R. Knight, License Instructor
*J. Morrison, Nuclear Assurance
*D. Olive, Operations Superintendent
*J. Parshall, Lead License Instructor
*J. Wallace, Site Licensing Engineer

*Attended exit interview

BROWNS FERRY POST EXAMINATION COMMENT RESOLUTION

QUESTION # 65

Accept 2 answers. B and D are both Correct per OI-92B Illustration I

NRC Response:

OI-92B Illustration I states:

Rod Block if REACTOR MODE SWITCH in RUN.

< 20 LPRMs total or , 3 per level results in a rod block and trouble alarm on the display panel. This does **NOT** yield an automatic APRM trip, but does, however, make the associated APRM INOP.

NRC agrees to accept both B and D as correct answers to question #65.