

December 19, 2001

Mr. Theodore Sullivan  
Vice President - Operations  
Entergy Nuclear Northeast  
James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant  
Post Office Box 110  
Lycoming, NY 13093

SUBJECT: JAMES A. FITZPATRICK OPERATOR AND SENIOR REACTOR OPERATOR  
INITIAL EXAMINATION REPORT NO. 50-333/01-301

Dear Mr. Sullivan:

This report transmits the results of the reactor operator (RO) and senior reactor operator (SRO) licensing examination conducted by the NRC during the period of November 5-9, 2001. This examination addressed areas important to public health and safety and was developed and administered using the guidelines of the "Examination Standards for Power Reactors" (NUREG-1021, Revision 8, Supplement 1).

Based on the results of the examination, all nine applicants passed all portions of the examination. The nine applicants included 4 ROs, 3 instant SROs and 2 upgrade SRO. Examination results indicated that the applicants were well prepared for the examination. Mr. A. Blamey discussed performance insights observed during the examination with Mr. R. Devercelly on November 9, 2001. On November 27, 2001, final examination results, including individual license numbers, were given during a telephone call between Mr. A. Blamey and Mr. T. Sullivan.

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). These records include the final examination and are available in ADAMS (RO and SRO Written- Accession Number ML013250043; Operating Section A- Accession Number ML013250138; Operating Section B- Accession Number ML013250095; and Operating Section C- Accession Number ML013250159). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Mr. Theodore Sullivan

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Should you have any questions regarding this examination, please contact me at (610) 337-5183, or by E-mail at RJC@NRC.GOV.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Richard J. Conte, Chief  
Operational Safety Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No. 50-333  
License No. DPR-59

Enclosure: Initial Examination Report No. 50-333/01-301

cc w/encl: J. Yelverton, CEO, Entergy Operations  
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J. Knubel, VP Operations Support  
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S. Lousteau, Treasury Department  
T. Judson, Central New York Citizens Awareness Network  
P. Berry, Manager - Training

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DATE	12/17/01		12/17/01		12 /17/01		12/19/01		

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U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION I

Docket No: 50-333

License No: DPR-59

Report No: 50-333/01-301

Licensee: Entergy Nuclear Northeast

Facility: James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Station

Dates: November 5, 2001 (Written Examination Administration)  
November 6-9, 2001 (Operating Test Administration)  
November 12-16, 2001 (Examination Grading)

Examiners: H. Williams, Senior Operations Engineer (Chief Examiner)  
A. Blamey, Senior Operations Engineer (under instruction)  
J. D'Antonio, Operations Engineer  
C. Sisco, Operations Engineer  
K. Walton, Operations Engineer (observer)

Approved by: Richard J. Conte, Chief  
Operational Safety Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

IR 05000333/01-301; November 5-9, 2001; James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant; Initial Operator Licensing Examination. Nine applicants (4 reactor operators, 3 SRO instants, and 2 SRO upgrades) passed the examination.

The examination was conducted by four NRC region-based examiners, one under instruction. There were no inspection findings associated with the examination.

## Report Details

### 1. REACTOR SAFETY

#### Mitigating Systems - Reactor Operator (RO) and Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) Initial License Examination

##### a. Scope of Review

The NRC examination team developed the written and operating initial examination and together with James A. FitzPatrick training and operations personnel verified or ensured, as applicable, the following:

- The examination was prepared and developed in accordance with the guidelines of Revision 8, Supplement 1 of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." A review was conducted both in the Region I office and at the James A. FitzPatrick plant and training facility. Final resolution of comments and incorporation of test revisions were conducted during and following the onsite preparation week.
- Simulation facility operation was proper.
- A test item analysis was completed on the written examination for feedback into the systems approach to training program.
- Examination security requirements were met.

The NRC examiners administered the operating portion of the examination to all applicants from November 6-9, 2001. The written examination was previously administered by the James A. FitzPatrick training staff on November 5, 2001.

##### b. Findings

#### Grading and Results

All nine applicants (5 SROs and 4 ROs) passed all portions of the initial licensing examination.

The facility had no post-examination comments.

#### Examination Administration and Performance

One simulator fidelity issue was identified and is detailed in the enclosed Simulation Facility Report.

#### 4OA6 Exit Meeting Summary

On November 27, 2001, the NRC provided conclusions and examination results to James A. FitzPatrick management representatives via telephone. License numbers for seven of nine applicants were also provided during this time. License numbers for the remaining two applicants were withheld pending completion of their required 6 month of non licensed operator experience. Mr. P. Berry was informed that when the NRC is notified, in writing, that the 6 month experience has been completed by these two individuals, their licenses would be issued.

The NRC expressed appreciation for the cooperation and assistance that was provided during the preparation and administration of the examination by the licensee's training staff.

KEY POINTS OF CONTACT

LICENSEE

R. Devercelly	Senior Instructor, Operator Training
S. Reininghaus	Manager, Operator Training
P. Ryan	Control Room Supervisor, Operations

NRC

H. Williams	Senior Operations Engineer
A. Blamey	Senior Operations Engineer
J. D'Antonio	Operations Engineer
C. Sisco	Operations Engineer

LIST OF ITEMS OPENED, CLOSED, AND DISCUSSED

<u>ITEM NUMBER</u>	<u>TYPE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
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NONE

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**ES501 Simulation Facility Report**

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Facility Licensee: James A. FitzPatrickFacility Docket No: 50-333Operating Tests Administered on: November 6-9, 2001

This form is to be used only to report observations. These observations do not constitute audit or inspection findings and, without further verification and review, are not 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. No licensee action is required in response to these observations.

While conducting the simulator portion of the operating test, examiners observed the following item:

ITEMDESCRIPTIONMain Steam Line  
Isolation Valve Closure

During a scenario involving a spurious Group I Isolation (all MSIVs automatically isolate), from full power, reactor pressure did not reach the lowest safety relief valve opening set point. Consequently the SRVs did not open during this transient. The James A. FitzPatrick Final Safety Analysis Report, Section 14.5.2.3, Main Steam Line Isolation Valve Closure and Figure 14.5-18, "Plant Response to MSIV Closure (Flux Scram) show at least 50% steam flow 8 seconds after the scram. This should have resulted in several SRVs opening to control reactor pressure.