



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION IV  
611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400  
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-8064**

February 21, 2002

Joseph E. Venable  
Vice President Operations  
Waterford 3  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
17265 River Road  
Killona, Louisiana 70066-0751

**SUBJECT: WATERFORD STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNIT 3 - NRC EXAMINATION  
REPORT 50-382/02-301**

Dear Mr. Venable:

On January 30, 2002, the NRC completed initial examinations at the Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3. The enclosed report presents the results of this examination, which were discussed on January 24, 2002, with Messrs. Tom Tankersley, Manager of Training, and James Douet, Operations Manager, of your facility.

The examination included the evaluation of 8 applicants for reactor operator licenses and 3 applicants for senior operator licenses. We determined that 10 of the 11 applicants satisfied the requirements of 10 CFR Part 55, and the appropriate licenses have been issued.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosure(s), and your response will be made 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/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Anthony T. Gody, Chief  
Operations Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket: 50-382  
License: NPF-38

Enclosure:  
NRC Inspection Report  
50-382/02-301

Entergy Operations, Inc.

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cc w/enclosure:

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**ENCLOSURE**

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION IV

Docket: 50-382  
License: NPF-38  
Report No.: 50-382/02-301  
Licensee: Entergy Operations, Inc.  
Facility: Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3  
Location: Hwy. 18  
Killona, Louisiana  
Dates: January 30, 2002  
Examiners: T. O. McKernon, Chief Examiner, Operations Branch  
S. L. McCrory, Senior Operations Engineer, Operations Branch  
R. E. Lantz, Operations Engineer, Operations Branch  
G. E. Werner, Operations Engineer, Operations Branch  
Approved By: Anthony T. Gody, Chief  
Operations Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

IR 05000382/02-301, on 1/18-30/2002, Entergy Operations, Inc., Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3, initial examination of applicants for operator licenses.

An NRC examination team evaluated the competency of eight applicants for reactor operator and three applicants for senior operator licenses at the Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3. The facility developed the written and operating examinations using NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 8, Supplement 1. The written examinations were administered to all applicants on January 18, 2002, by facility proctors in accordance with instructions provided by the chief examiner. The NRC examiners administered the operating tests on January 21-24, 2002.

Cross-cutting Issues: Human Performance

- No findings were identified.

## Report Details

### 4. OTHER ACTIVITIES

#### 4OA4 Initial License Examinations

##### .1 Operator Knowledge and Performance

###### a. Inspection Scope

On January 18, 2002, the licensee proctored the administration of the written examination to all eleven applicants. The licensee staff graded the written examinations, analyzed the results, and presented their analysis to the NRC on January 30, 2002.

The NRC examination team administered the various portions of the operating examination to the applicants on January 21-24, 2002. The eight applicants for reactor operator licenses participated in two dynamic simulator scenarios, a control room and facilities walkthrough test consisting of ten system tasks, and an administrative test consisting of five administrative tasks. The three applicants that were upgrading from a reactor operator license to a senior operator license each participated in two dynamic simulator scenarios, a control room and facilities walkthrough test consisting of five system tasks, and an administrative test consisting of five administrative tasks.

###### b. Findings

Ten of the 11 applicants passed all parts of the examinations. The applicants demonstrated good 3-way communications, alarm response, and peer checking. For the written examinations, the reactor operator applicants average score was 86.5 percent and ranged from 73.7 to 96.9 percent. The scores for the senior operator applicants averaged 86.1 percent and ranged from 81.8 to 89.8 percent. The overall written examination average was 86.4 percent. The text of the examination questions may be accessed in the ADAMS system under Accession Numbers ML# 020350146 and 020350165.

The licensee conducted a performance analysis for the written examinations with emphasis on three questions missed by half or more of the applicable applicants. The licensee concluded that there were no commonalities in the knowledge deficiencies. The licensee recommended that three questions should be modified to accept other answers or deleted from the written examination. The chief examiner reviewed the technical basis for the proposed changes and concurred with the licensee's technical issues. The chief examiner reviewed the licensee's analysis and applicant performance and found the conclusions to be technically valid. The final resolution included modification of SRO Question 96 to change the answer to choice C in lieu of D to correct an administration error in the examination. Reactor Operator Question 20/SRO (26) was requested to change the answer to choice A in lieu of C, because the choice best met the HPSI throttle criteria asked for in the stem of the question. Reactor Operator Question 67, SRO (53), the licensee requested the question be deleted because the applicants did not have sufficient references provided to answer the question. The NRC reviewed and accepted the licensee's recommendations.

No findings were identified.

## .2 Initial Licensing Examination Development

The licensee developed the written and operating examinations in accordance with NUREG-1021, Revision 8, Supplement 1, using facility training and operations staff on the security agreement.

### .2.1 Examination Outline and Examination Package

#### a. Inspection Scope

The facility licensee submitted the operating examination outlines on September 23, 2001. The chief examiner reviewed the submittal against the requirements of NUREG-1021, Revision 8, Supplement 1, and provided comments to the licensee. The facility licensee submitted the draft operating examination package on December 10, 2001. The chief examiner reviewed the draft submittal against the requirements of NUREG-1021, Revision 8, Supplement 1, and provided comments to the licensee on the operating examination on December 19, 2001. The NRC conducted an onsite validation of the operating examinations and provided further comments during the week of January 7, 2002. The licensee satisfactorily completed comment resolution on January 15, 2002. The licensee submitted letter W3F1-2002-0014 on January 30, 2002, which contained the written examination comments. Questions, which were referenced in the licensee's letter, are contained in Attachment 2 to this report and separately in ADAMS document ML 020360522.

#### b. Findings

Region IV approved the initial examination outline and advised the licensee to proceed with the operating examination development.

The examiners determined that the written and operating examinations initially submitted by the licensee were within the range of acceptability expected for a proposed examination.

No findings were identified.

## .3 Simulation Facility Performance

#### a. Inspection Scope

The examiners observed simulator performance with regard to plant fidelity during the examination validation and administration.

#### b. Findings

No findings were identified.

.4 Examination Security

a. Scope

The examiners reviewed examination security both during the onsite preparation week and examination administration week for compliance with NUREG-1021 requirements. Plans for simulator security and applicant control were reviewed.

b. Observations and Findings

No findings were identified.

40A5 Management Meetings

.1 Exit Meeting Summary

The chief examiner presented the examination results to Mr. T. Tankersley, Manager of Training, and Mr. James Douet, Operations Manager at the conclusion of the examination on January 24, 2002. The licensee acknowledged the findings presented.

The licensee did not identify as proprietary any information or materials examined during the examination.

**ATTACHMENT**

PARTIAL LIST OF PERSONS CONTACTED

Licensee

T. Tankersley, Manager of Training  
R. Fletcher, Operations Training Supervisor  
O. Pipkins, Licensing Engineer  
J. Douet, Operations Manager

NRC

T. Farnholtz, Senior Resident Inspector

ADAMS DOCUMENTS REFERENCED

Accession No.:

ML 020350146 and 020350165	Final Reference Examination
ML 020360522	Licensee Examination Comments

**ATTACHMENT 2**

**LICENSEE COMMENTS**