



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

April 4, 2002

Duke Energy Corporation  
ATTN: Mr. W. R. McCollum  
Site Vice President  
Oconee Nuclear Station  
7800 Rochester Highway  
Seneca, SC 29672

**SUBJECT: OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION - NRC EXAMINATION REPORT  
50-269/2002-301, 50-270/2002-301 AND 50-287/2002-301**

Dear Mr. McCollum:

During the period of February 11-18, 2002, and on March 21, 2002, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) administered operating examinations to employees of your company who had applied for licenses to operate the Oconee Nuclear Station Units 1, 2 and 3. The enclosed report documents the examination results and findings which were discussed on February 15, 2002, with you and other members of your staff. The written examination was administered by your staff on February 18, 2002.

The written and operating examinations were administered to three Reactor Operators and seven Senior Reactor Operator applicants. All applicants passed both the written and operating examinations. There were no 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 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/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

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

Docket Nos. 50-269, 50-270, 50-287  
License Nos. DPR-38, DPR-47, DPR-55

Enclosures: (See page 2)

DEC

2

Enclosures: 1. Examination Report  
2. Simulation Facility Report

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DEC

3

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION II

Docket Nos.: 50-269, 50-270, 50-287

License Nos.: DPR-38, DPR-47, DPR-55

Report Nos.: 50-269/2002-301, 50-270/2002-301, 50-287/2002-301

Licensee: Duke Energy Corporation

Facility: Oconee Nuclear Station

Location: 7800 Rochester Highway  
Seneca, SC 29672

Dates: Operating Tests - February 11-15, 2002  
March 21, 2002  
Written Examination - February 18, 2002

Examiners: George T. Hopper, Chief, Senior Reactor Inspector  
D. Charles Payne, Senior Reactor Inspector  
Jonathan H. Bartley, Senior Resident Inspector

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

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

ER 05000269-02-301, ER 05000270-02-301, and ER 05000287-02-301 on 2/11-18/2002 and 3/21/2002, Duke Energy Corporation, Oconee Nuclear Station, licensed operator examinations.

The operator licensing initial examinations were developed jointly by the NRC and the licensee and administered by NRC examiners in accordance with the guidance of NUREG-1021, "Examiner Standards", Revision 8, Supplement 1. The examination implemented the operator licensing requirements of 10 CFR §55.41, §55.43, and §55.45. No significant issues were identified.

The NRC administered the operating tests during the period of February 11-15, 2002 and March 21, 2002. The licensee administered the written examination on February 18, 2002. All applicants passed both the written and the operating examinations. Nine applicants were issued operator licenses commensurate with the level of examination administered. One applicant's license was withheld and will be issued pending notification from the facility that he has completed his on-shift training requirements.

## Report Details

### 4. OTHER ACTIVITIES (OA)

#### **4OA5** Operator Licensing Initial Examinations

##### a. Inspection Scope

The NRC developed the written examinations and the licensee developed the operating tests in accordance with NUREG 1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 8, Supplement 1. The facility licensee's submittal was within the range of acceptability expected for a proposed examination. The NRC and licensee examination team reviewed the proposed examinations. 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 approved operating tests during the period of February 11-15, 2002, to three RO applicants and seven SRO applicants. However, one RO applicant was unable to complete his operating test that week due to illness. Four additional JPMs were developed by the licensee and approved by the NRC. The NRC completed the administration of this applicant's operating test on March 21, 2002. The licensee staff administered the approved written examination on February 18, 2002 to ten applicants. The examiners reviewed the licensee examination security measures while preparing and administering the examinations to ensure examination security and integrity.

##### b. Issues and Findings

No findings of significance were identified.

All of the applicants passed both written and operating examinations. Details of each applicant's deficiencies are described in the individual's examination report, Form ES-303-1, "Operator Licensing Examination Report." Copies of the evaluations have been forwarded under separate cover to the Training Manager in order to enable the licensee to evaluate these deficiencies and provide appropriate remedial training for those operators as necessary. Nine applicants were issued operator licenses commensurate with the level of examination administered. One RO applicant was granted a waiver of the eligibility requirements and was allowed to take the examination. This applicant's license was withheld and will be issued pending notification from the facility that he has completed his on-shift training requirements.

The licensee did not submit any post-examination comments concerning the written examination. The written examinations and answer keys may be accessed in the ADAMS system (ADAMS Accession Number ML020920552 and ML020920618).

**4OA6** MeetingsExit Meeting Summary

The Chief Examiner presented the preliminary examination results on February 15, 2002, to members of licensee management. An additional exit meeting was held on March 21, 2002 following the completion of one applicant's operating test. The licensee acknowledged the examination results presented.

The inspectors 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

W. Foster, Safety Assurance Manager  
P. Gillespie, Shift Operations Manager  
R. Jones, Station Manager  
W. McCollum, Vice President  
L. Nicholson, Regulatory Compliance Manager  
R. Repko, Operations Superintendent  
R. Robinson, Operations Representative  
J. Steely, Initial Training Supervisor  
P. Stovall, Manager Operator Training  
J. Smith, Regulatory Compliance Specialist  
G. Washburn, Operations Training Specialist



## SIMULATION FACILITY REPORT

Facility Licensee: Oconee

Facility Docket Nos.: 50-269, 50-270, and 50-287

Operating Tests Administered on: February 11-15, 2002

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 tests, examiners observed the following items:

<b><u>ITEM</u></b>	<b><u>DESCRIPTION</u></b>
DC Lighting Incorrect	DC lighting is only provided in the 'horse-shoe' area of the control room and not in the area behind the RPS cabinets. (WR # 20020019)
Model Problem with A SG Pressure	After recall of SNAP 221, the A SG pressure would increase instead of remaining low as it should have due to an existing steam line break. (WR # 20020021)
Rod Group Avg Position Indication on OAC	Group 5, 6, and 7 average position indications on the OAC incorrectly read 0 with reactor at power. (WR # 20020018)