

April 5, 2002

Mr. Guy Campbell  
Vice President - Nuclear, Perry  
FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company  
P. O. Box 97, A200  
Perry, OH 44081

SUBJECT: PERRY NUCLEAR POWER PLANT  
INITIAL LICENSE EXAMINATION REPORT 50-440/02-301(DRS)

Dear Mr. Campbell:

On March 13, 2002, the NRC completed initial operator licensing examinations at your Perry Nuclear Power Plant. The enclosed report presents the results of the examination.

Perry Nuclear Power Plant training department personnel administered the written examination on March 13, 2002, and NRC examiners administered the operating examination during the weeks of March 4 and March 11, 2002. Two reactor operator and five senior reactor operator applicants were administered license examinations. The results of the examinations were finalized on March 25, 2002. All seven applicants passed all sections of their respective examinations resulting in the issuance of two reactor operator licenses and five senior reactor 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).

G. Campbell

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We will gladly discuss any questions you have concerning this examination.

Sincerely,

***/RA/***

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

Docket No. 50-440  
License No. NPF-58

Enclosures: 1. Operator Licensing Examination Report  
50-440/02-301(DRS)  
2. Simulation Facility Report  
3. Written Examinations and Answer Keys (RO & SRO)

cc w/encls 1 &2: B. Saunders, President - FENOC  
T. Rausch, Director, Nuclear  
Maintenance Department  
G. Dunn, Manager, Regulatory Affairs  
K. Ostrowski, Director, Nuclear  
Services Department  
J. Powers, Director, Nuclear  
Engineering Department  
W. Kanda, General Manager,  
Nuclear Power Plant Department  
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio  
Ohio State Liaison Officer  
R. Owen, Ohio Department of Health

cc w/encls 1, 2 & 3: R. Collings, Training Manager

G. Campbell

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- Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
- Ohio State Liaison Officer
- R. Owen, Ohio Department of Health

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U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION III

Docket No: 50-440  
License No: NPF-58

Report No: 50-440/02-301(DRS)

Licensee: FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company (FENOC)

Facility: Perry Nuclear Power Plant, Unit 1

Location: P.O. Box 97 A200  
Perry, OH 44081

Dates: March 5 through March 13, 2002

Examiners: David L. Pelton, Chief Examiner  
Jay A. Hopkins, Examiner  
Rene Vogt-Lowell, Examiner

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

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

ER 05000440-02-301, on 03/05-03/13/2002, FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company, Perry, Unit 1. The announced operator licensing initial examination was conducted by regional examiners in accordance with the guidance of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 8, Supplement 1.

### Examination Summary:

- Two reactor operator applicants and five senior reactor operator applicants were administered written and operating examinations for initial operator licensing. All seven applicants passed all sections of their respective examinations resulting in the issuance of two reactor operator licenses and five senior reactor operator licenses (Section 4OA5.1).

## Report Details

### 1. OTHER ACTIVITIES (OA)

#### 4OA5 Other

##### .1 Initial Licensing Examinations

###### a. Inspection Scope

The NRC examiners conducted announced operator licensing initial examinations during the weeks of March 4 and March 11, 2002. The facility's training 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 and operating examinations. The facility's training staff administered the written examination on March 13, 2002. The NRC examiners administered the operating examination the weeks of March 4 and March 11, 2002. Two reactor operator applicants and five senior reactor operator applicants were examined.

###### b. Findings

###### Written Examination

The NRC examiners determined that the written examination, as originally submitted by the licensee, was outside the acceptable quality range expected by the NRC. This determination was based on the fact that 30 written questions (23.4%) required replacement or significant modification when reviewed in accordance with NUREG-1021. The problems identified with the written examination included, but were not limited to: questions that contained multiple correct answers, questions on the senior reactor operator's examination that did not test at the appropriate license level (i.e., did not require the applicant to possess a senior reactor operator's level of knowledge in order to answer the question), and questions that did not match the referenced knowledge and ability statement (K/A). The licensee has entered this issue into their corrective actions program and would be expected to incorporate any lessons learned into future examination submittals.

Examination changes, agreed upon between the NRC and the licensee, were made according to NUREG-1021. The licensee provided no post-examination comments on the written examination questions that were administered to the applicants.

###### 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. Examination changes, agreed upon between the NRC and the licensee, were made according to NUREG-1021. The licensee provided no post-examination comments on the operating examination that was administered to the applicants.

## Examination Results

Two reactor operator applicants and five senior reactor operator applicants were administered written and operating examinations for initial operator licensing. All seven applicants passed all sections of their respective examinations resulting in the issuance of two reactor operator licenses and five senior reactor operator licenses.

### .2 Examination Security

#### a. 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.

### 4OA6 Management Meetings

#### Exit Meeting Summary

The chief examiner presented the examination team's preliminary observations and findings to Mr. Guy Campbell and other members of the licensee management on March 12, 2002. The licensee acknowledged the observations and findings presented and did not identify any proprietary information.



## KEY POINTS OF CONTACT

### Licensee

B. Boles, Operations Manager  
G. Campbell, Site Vice-President  
D. Johnson, Initial License Examination Lead  
J. Kelly, Initial License Training Lead  
J. McHugh, Operations Training Supervisor  
K. Ostrowski, Nuclear Services Director  
D. Pierson, Training Instructor and Simulator Operator  
R. Sochia, Operations Department Examination Representative  
R. Strohl, Operations Superintendent

### NRC

R. Powell, Perry Senior Resident Inspector  
J. Ellegood, Perry Resident Inspector

## LIST OF ITEMS OPENED, CLOSED AND DISCUSSED

### Opened

None

### Closed

None

### Discussed

None

## LIST OF ACRONYMS

ADAMS	Agency-Wide Document Access and Management System
DRS	Division of Reactor Safety
NRC	Nuclear Regulatory Commission
PARS	Publicly Available Records
RO	Reactor Operator
SRO	Senior Reactor Operator

Simulation Facility Report

Facility Licensee: Perry Nuclear Power Plant, Unit 1

Facility Docket No.: 50-440

Operating Tests Administered: March 05 - 13, 2002

The following documents observations made by the NRC examination team during the initial operator license examination. These observations do not constitute audit or inspection findings and are not, without further verification and review, indicative of non-compliance with 10 CFR Part 55.45(b). These observations do not affect NRC certification or approval of the simulation facility other than to provide information which may be used in future evaluations. No licensee action is required in response to these observations.

During the conduct of the simulator portion of the operating tests, the following items were observed:

ITEM	DESCRIPTION
1.	Intermediate Range Meter/Average Power Range Meter "B"/"F" chart recorder failed to operate during all simulator scenarios. A simulator work request item was generated for this malfunction.
2.	Indication for control rod 42-19, on the full core display, turned magenta at position notch 12. A simulator work request item was generated for this malfunction.
3.	Low pressure condenser HI/LOW alarm (on panel P680) was alarming although condenser conditions did not warrant either the high or low level alarms. This alarm occurred sporadically until power was stable at 100 percent. A simulator work request item was generated for this malfunction.

Written Examinations and Answer Keys (RO/SRO)

Reactor Operator Initial Examination ADAMS Accession # ML020930791

Senior Reactor Operator Initial Examination ADAMS Accession # ML020930807