



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4005**

September 18, 2002

Craig G. Anderson, Vice President,
Operations
Arkansas Nuclear One
Entergy Operations, Inc.
1448 S.R. 333
Russellville, Arkansas 72801-0967

**SUBJECT: ARKANSAS NUCLEAR ONE, UNIT 1 - NRC EXAMINATION
REPORT 50-313/02-302**

Dear Mr. Anderson:

On August 22, 2002, the NRC completed an examination at your Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 1. The enclosed report documents the examination findings, which were discussed on August 22, 2002, with Mr. James G. Hoffpauir and other members of your staff.

The examination included the evaluation of five applicants for reactor operator licenses and two applicants for senior operator licenses. We determined that all 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 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/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Sincerely,

/RA/

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

Dockets: 50-313
Licenses: DPR-51

Enclosure:
NRC Examination Report
50-313/02-302

Entergy Operations, Inc.

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cc w/enclosure:
Executive Vice President
& Chief Operating Officer
Entergy Operations, Inc.
P.O. Box 31995
Jackson, Mississippi 39286-1995

Vice President
Operations Support
Entergy Operations, Inc.
P.O. Box 31995
Jackson, Mississippi 39286-1995

Manager, Washington Nuclear Operations
ABB Combustion Engineering Nuclear
Power
12300 Twinbrook Parkway, Suite 330
Rockville, Maryland 20852

County Judge of Pope County
Pope County Courthouse
100 West Main Street
Russellville, Arkansas 72801

Winston & Strawn
1400 L Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-3502

Bernard Bevill
Radiation Control Team Leader
Division of Radiation Control and
Emergency Management
Arkansas Department of Health
4815 West Markham Street, Mail Slot 30
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205-3867

Mike Schoppman
Framatome ANP, Inc.
Suite 705
1911 North Fort Myer Drive
Rosslyn, Virginia 22209

Electronic distribution by RIV:
Regional Administrator (**EWM**)
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Senior Project Engineer, DRP/D (**ELC1**)
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RITS Coordinator (**NBH**)
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ENCLOSURE

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV

Docket: 50-313
License: DPR-51
Report No.: 50-313/02-302
Licensee: Entergy Operations, Inc.
Facility: Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 1
Location: Junction of Hwy. 64W and Hwy. 333 South
Russellville, Arkansas
Dates: August 16 - 22, 2002
Inspectors: T. Stetka, Senior Operations Engineer, Operations Branch
G. Johnston, Senior Operations Engineer, Operations Branch
G. Werner, Senior Operations Engineer, Operations Branch
Approved By: Anthony T. Gody, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

ER 50-313/02-302; on August 16 - 22, 2002; Entergy Operations, Inc.; Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 1; Initial Operator Licensing Examinations.

NRC examiners evaluated the competency of five applicants for reactor operator licenses and two applicants for senior operator licenses at Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 1. The licensee developed the examinations using NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 8, Supplement 1. Licensee proctors administered the written examination to all applicants on August 16, 2002, in accordance with the instructions provided by the chief examiner. The NRC administered the operating tests on August 19-22, 2002.

Cornerstone: Human Performance

No findings of significance were identified (Section 40A4.1).

Report Details

4. OTHER ACTIVITIES (OA)

4OA4 Initial Operator License Examination

.1 Operator Knowledge and Performance

a. Examination Scope

The NRC examination team administered the operating examinations to the seven applicants on August 19-22, 2002. The reactor operator applicants participated in two or three dynamic simulator scenarios, a control room and facilities walkthrough test consisting of ten system tasks, and an administrative test consisting of one task or two questions in five areas. The two applicants that were upgrading their reactor operator license to a senior operator license participated in three scenarios, a control room and facilities walkthrough test consisting of five system tasks and an administrative test consisting of one task or two questions in five areas.

On August 16, 2002, the licensee proctored the administration of the written examinations to all seven applicants and forwarded the proposed grades together with the performance analysis to the NRC for approval.

b. Findings

All applicants passed all parts of the examinations. For the written examinations, the average score for reactor operator applicants was 90.8 percent, and the average score for senior operator applicants was 94.5 percent. The reactor operator applicant scores ranged from 90 to 93 percent, and the senior operator applicant scores ranged from 94 to 95 percent.

The licensee conducted a performance analysis for the written examinations with emphasis on 14 questions missed by half or more of the applicants. After reviewing the licensee's analysis, the examiners concluded that all questions were valid and that there were no apparent training deficiencies. There were no post-examination comments on examination questions. The text of the examination questions and the performance analysis may be accessed in the ADAMS system as noted in the attachment.

.2 Initial Licensing Examination Development

The licensee developed the examinations in accordance with NUREG-1021, Revision 8, Supplement 1. Licensee facility training and operations staff involved in examination development were on a security agreement.

.2.1 Examination Outline and Examination Package

a. Examination Scope

The facility licensee submitted the operating examination outlines on April 13, 2002. Examiners reviewed the submittal against the requirements of NUREG-1021, Revision 8, Supplement 1, and forwarded minor comments to the licensee on April 23, 2002. The facility licensee submitted the draft examination package on June 13, 2002. Examiners reviewed the draft submittals against the requirements of NUREG-1021, Revision 8, Supplement 1 and provided comments to the licensee on July 16, 2002. The chief examiner conducted an onsite validation of the examinations and provided further comments during the week of July 22, 2002. The licensee satisfactorily completed comment resolution on August 14, 2002.

b. Findings

Examiners approved the initial examination outline with minor comments and advised the licensee to proceed with the operating examination development.

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

No findings of significance were identified.

.3 Simulation Facility Performance

a. Examination Scope

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

b. Findings

No findings of significance were identified.

.4 Examination Security

a. Examination 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 and discussed with licensee personnel.

b. Findings

No findings of significance were identified.

4OA5 Management Meeting

.1 Exit Meetings

The examination team presented the examination results to Mr. Mr. James Hoffpaur, Plant Manager - Operations, and other members of the licensee's management staff at the conclusion of the examinations on August 22, 2002. The licensee acknowledged the findings presented.

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

KEY POINTS OF CONTACT

Licensee

G. Giles, Supervisor, Operations Training
S. Pullin, Operations Trainer
J. Cork, Examination Writer
D. Smith, Simulator Instructor
D. Slusher, Senior Instructor
R. Byford, Simulator Supervisor
F. Uptagrafft, Simulator Instructor

ADAMS DOCUMENTS REFERENCED

Accession No. ML022610202: Written examination for reactor and senior reactor operators

Accession No. ML022610191: Written examination performance analysis and applicant questions