



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

December 6, 2002

C. L. Terry, Senior Vice President
and Principal Nuclear Officer
TXU Energy
ATTN: Regulatory Affairs
Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station
P.O. Box 1002
Glen Rose, Texas 76043

SUBJECT: COMANCHE PEAK STEAM ELECTRIC STATION - NRC EXAMINATION
REPORT 50-445/02-301; 50-446/02-301

Dear Mr. Terry:

On November 22, 2002, the NRC completed an examination at your Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station, Units 1 and 2. The enclosed report documents the examination findings, which were discussed on November 22, 2002, with members of your staff.

The examinations included an evaluation of six applicants for reactor operator licenses and six 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 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

Dockets: 50-445; 50-446
Licenses: NPF-87; NPF-89

Enclosure:
NRC Examination Report
50-445/02-301; 50-446/02-301

TXU Energy

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cc w/enclosure:
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ENCLOSURE

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV

Dockets: 50-445; 50-446
Licenses: NPF-87; NPF-89
Report No.: 50-445/02-301; 50-446/02-301
Licensee: TXU Energy
Facility: Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station, Units 1 and 2
Location: FM-56
Glen Rose, Texas
Dates: November 18-22, 2002
Examiners: Howard F. Bundy, Chief Examiner; Operations Branch
Thomas O. McKernon, Senior Operations Engineer; Operations Branch
Michael E. Murphy, Senior Operations Engineer, Operations Branch
Alfred Sanchez, Resident Inspector, Projects Branch A
Accompanying Personnel: Mark Haire, Operations Engineer, Operations Branch
Approved By: Anthony T. Gody, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

ER 05000445/02-301;05000445/02-301, 11/18-22/2002, TXU Energy, Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station, Units 1 and 2, Initial Examination of Applicants for Operator Licenses.

An NRC examination team evaluated the competency of six applicants for reactor operator licenses and six applicants for senior operator licenses. The NRC developed the examinations using NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 8, Supplement 1. NRC examiners administered the written examinations on November 7, 2002, and the operating tests on November 18-22, 2002. All applicants passed all portions of the written and operating test. The appropriate licenses were issued. No findings of significance were identified (40A4.1).

Report Details

4. OTHER ACTIVITIES

4OA4 Initial License Examinations

.1 Operator Knowledge and Performance

a. Examination Scope

The NRC examination team administered the written examinations to 12 applicants on November 7, 2002, and the operating examinations to the 12 applicants on November 18-22, 2002. Most of the applicants participated in two 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 applicant for upgrading his reactor operator licenses to senior operator license participated in only one scenario and took a control room and facilities walkthrough test consisting of only five system tasks. His administrative test was identical to the test for instant senior operator applicants.

b. Findings

All applicants passed all parts of the examinations. For the written examinations, the average score for reactor operator applicants was 85.7 percent, and the average score for senior operator applicants was 89.5 percent. The reactor operator applicant scores ranged from 83 to 88 percent, and the senior operator applicant scores ranged from 84 to 95 percent.

NRC examiners conducted a performance analysis for the written examinations with emphasis on 11 questions missed by half or more of the applicants. The examiners concluded that all questions were valid and that there were no apparent training deficiencies. There were no licensee post-examination comments on examination questions. The text of the examination questions and the applicant question performance analysis may be accessed in the ADAMS system as noted in the attachment.

.2 Initial Licensing Examination Development

a. Scope

NRC examiners developed the examinations in accordance with NUREG-1021, Revision 8, Supplement 1. Licensee facility training and operations staff, under a security agreement, were given an opportunity to review and comment on the proposed examinations on September 24-25, 2002. The examinations were further reviewed and validated with licensee personnel under a security agreement on October 22-25, 2002.

b. Findings

Licensee comments were satisfactorily addressed by NRC examiners. No findings of significance were identified.

.3 Simulation Facility Performance

a. Scope

The examination team 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. Scope

The examiners reviewed examination security both during the onsite preparation and examination administration weeks with respect to NUREG-1021 requirements. Written plans for simulator security and applicant control were reviewed and discussed with licensee personnel.

b. Findings

No findings of significance were identified.

4OA5 Management Meetings

Exit Meeting Summary

The examination team presented the examination results to Mr. Blevins and other members of the licensee's management staff at the conclusion of the examinations on November 22, 2002. The licensee's management acknowledged the observations presented.

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

ATTACHMENT

PARTIAL LIST OF PERSONS CONTACTED

Licensee

M. Blevins, Deputy to Senior Vice President and Principal Nuclear Officer
S. Ellis, Operations Manager
G. Ellis, Operations Training Supervisor
E. Lessmann, License Class 14 Lead
F. Madden, Licensing Manager
E. Meaders, Training Manager
R. Slough, License Engineer
E. Thomas, Operations Training Coordinator

NRC

D. Allen, Senior Resident Inspector

ADAMS DOCUMENTS REFERENCED

Accession No.: ML 023360207 - Final Reference Written Examination

Accession No.: ML 023360211 - Written Examination Performance Analysis