

January 2, 2003

Mr. A. C. Bakken III  
Senior Vice President  
Nuclear Generation Group  
American Electric Power Company  
500 Circle Drive  
Buchanan, MI 49107

SUBJECT: DC COOK NUCLEAR POWER STATION  
NRC INITIAL LICENSE EXAMINATION REPORT  
50-315/02-301(DRS); 50-316/02-301(DRS)

Dear Mr. Bakken:

On December 9, 2002, NRC examiners completed initial operator licensing examinations at your DC Cook Nuclear Power Station. The enclosed report presents the results of the examination.

The NRC examiners administered an initial license examination operating test during the weeks of November 18, November 25, and December 2, 2002. A written examination was administered by DC Cook Station training personnel on December 9, 2002. Nine Reactor Operator (RO) and twelve Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) applicants were administered license examinations. The results of the examinations were finalized on December 26, 2002. All applicants passed all sections of their respective examinations and were issued applicable operator licenses.

In accordance with 10 CFR Part 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).

A. Bakken

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

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Roger D. Lanksbury, Chief  
Operations Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-315; 50-316  
License Nos. DPR-58; DPR-74

Enclosures: 1. Operator Licensing Examination  
Report 50-315/02-301(DRS); 50-316/02-301(DRS)  
2. Simulation Facility Report  
3. Written Examinations and Answer  
Keys (RO & SRO)

cc w/encl 1 & 2 J. Pollock, Site Vice President  
M. Finissi, Plant Manager  
R. Whale, Michigan Public Service Commission  
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality  
Emergency Management Division  
MI Department of State Police  
D. Lochbaum, Union of Concerned Scientists

cc w/encls 1, 2, & 3: C. Jones, Training Manager

A. Bakken

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U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION III

Docket Nos. 50-315; 50-316  
License Nos. DPR-58; DPR-74

Report No: 50-315/02-301(DRS); 50-316/02-301(DRS)

Licensee: American Electric Power Company

Facility: D. C. Cook Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2

Location: 1 Cook Place  
Bridgman, MI 49106

Dates: November 18 through December 9, 2002

Examiners: D. McNeil, Chief Examiner  
N. Valos, Examiner  
R. Walton, Examiner

Approved by: Roger D. Lanksbury, Chief  
Operations Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

ER 05000315-02-301(DRS), 05000316-02-301(DRS), on 11/18-12/09/02, American Electric Power Company, DC Cook Nuclear Power Station. Initial License Examination Report.

The announced operator licensing initial examination was conducted by regional NRC examiners in accordance with the guidance of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 8, Supplement 1.

### Examination Summary:

- Twenty-one applicants passed all sections of their respective examinations and were issued applicable operator licenses. (Section 4OA5.1).

## Report Details

### **4. OTHER ACTIVITIES (OA)**

#### 4OA5 Other

##### .1 Initial Licensing Examinations

###### a. Examination Scope

The NRC examiners conducted an announced operator licensing initial examination during the weeks of November 18, November 25, December 2, and December 9, 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 examination and operating test. The NRC examiners administered the operating test during the weeks of November 18, November 25, and December 2, 2002. DC Cook Station training staff members administered the written examination on December 9, 2002. Nine Reactor Operator and twelve Senior Reactor Operator applicants were examined.

###### b. Findings

###### Written Examination

The licensee developed the written examination. During their initial review, the examiners determined that the examination, as submitted by the licensee, was within the range of acceptability expected for a proposed examination. During examination validation the week of October 7, 2002, examination changes agreed upon between the NRC and the licensee were incorporated according to the guidance contained in NUREG-1021.

The licensee had no post examination comments on the written examination.

###### 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 during the validation week in accordance with NUREG-1021 guidance.

###### Examination Results

Nine Reactor Operator applicants and twelve Senior Reactor Operator applicants were administered written examinations and operating tests for initial operator licensing. All twenty-one applicants passed all sections of their respective examinations and were issued applicable 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 licensee's implementation of examination security requirements during examination preparation and administration were acceptable and met the guidelines provided in NUREG 1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." No violations of 10 CFR 55.49 occurred during the examination preparation and administration.

4OA6 Meeting(s)

Exit Meeting

The chief examiner presented the examination team's preliminary observations and findings on December 9, 2002, to Mr. J. Molden and members of the Operations and Training Department staff. The licensee acknowledged the observations and findings presented. No proprietary information was identified during the examination or the exit meeting.



## KEY POINTS OF CONTACT

### Licensee

J. Molden, Acting Plant Manager  
R. Anderson, ILT Supervisor  
R. Brown, Operations Training Manager  
I. Fleetwood, ILT Lead Instructor  
C. Jones, Training Manager  
R. Meister, NRAC/Senior Specialist  
M. Scarpello, NRA/Compliance Supervisor  
R. Sieber, Operations Manager - Shifts  
S. Simpson, Assistant Director of Operations  
T. Werk, Examination Development Lead

### NRC

B. Kemker, Senior Resident Inspector, DC Cook

## ITEMS OPENED, CLOSED AND DISCUSSED

### Opened

None

### Closed

None

### Discussed

None

## LIST OF ACRONYMS USED

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: DC Cook Station  
 Facility Docket No.: 50-315; 50-316  
 Operating Tests Administered: November 18 - December 6, 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 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
WMFP Speed Controller	The West MFP Speed Controller did not function when in manual, following a simulator reset. An instructor placed the controller in auto, then back to manual. The controller then functioned properly. Simulator problem report 2002140 generated.
Simulator	During execution of the scenario saved for December 4, 2002, the simulator repeatedly halted. The simulator was turned over to software personnel; they were able to trap the offending calculation and make corrections. The simulator did not halt during validation week.

WRITTEN EXAMINATIONS AND ANSWER KEYS (RO/SRO)

RO/SRO Initial Examination ADAMS Accession # ML030060236