



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

January 27, 2003

Tennessee Valley Authority  
ATTN: Mr. J. A. Scalice  
Chief Nuclear Officer and  
Executive Vice President  
6A Lookout Place  
1101 Market Street  
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

**SUBJECT: REACTOR AND SENIOR REACTOR OPERATOR INITIAL EXAMINATION -  
SEQUOYAH NUCLEAR PLANT 50-327/03-301 AND 50-328/03-301**

Dear Mr. Scalice:

In a telephone conversation on January 22, 2003, between Mr. Scott Poteet, Shift Operations Supervisor Instructor, and Mr. Timothy C. Kolb, Operations Engineer, arrangements were made for the administration of licensing retake examinations at the Sequoyah Nuclear Plant during the week of February 24, 2003 (operating test and admin section).

As agreed during the telephone conversation, your staff will prepare the examination based on the guidelines in Revision 8, Supplement 1, of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." The NRC regional office will discuss with your staff any changes that might be necessary before the examinations are administered. Your staff will also provide copying services for administering the exam.

To meet the above schedule, it will be necessary for your staff to furnish the examination outlines, operating tests and the supporting reference materials identified in Attachment 2 of ES-201 by February 4, 2003. Pursuant to 10 CFR 55.40(b)(3), an authorized representative of the facility licensee shall approve the outlines and examinations before they are submitted to the NRC for review and approval. All materials shall be complete and ready-to-use. Any delay in receiving the required examination and reference materials, or the submittal of inadequate or incomplete materials, may cause the examination to be rescheduled.

In order to conduct the requested operating tests, it will be necessary for your staff to make the simulation facility available on the dates noted above. In accordance with ES-302, your staff should retain the original simulator performance data (e.g., system pressures, temperatures, and levels) generated during the dynamic operating tests until the examination results are final.

Appendix E of NUREG-1021 contains a number of NRC policies and guidelines that will be in effect while the operating tests are being administered.

To permit timely NRC review and evaluation, your staff should submit preliminary operator and senior reactor operator license applications (Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval number 3150-0090), medical certifications (OMB approval number 3150-0024), and waiver

requests (if any) (OMB approval number 3150-0090) at least 30 days before the examination date. If the applications are not received at least 30 days before the examination date, a postponement may be necessary. Signed applications certifying that all training has been completed should be submitted at least 14 days before the examination date.

This letter contains information collections that are subject to the *Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995* (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). These information collections were approved by the Office of Management and Budget, approval number 3150-0018, which expires on April 30, 2003. The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 500 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments on any aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Information and Records Management Branch (T-6 F33), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, or by Internet electronic mail at [BJS1@NRC.GOV](mailto:BJS1@NRC.GOV); and to the Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, NEOB-10202, (3150-0101), Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

The NRC may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Mr. Scott Poteet has been advised of the policies and guidelines referenced in this letter. If you have any questions regarding the NRC's examination procedures and guidelines, please contact Timothy C. Kolb at (404) 562-4665, (Internet E-mail: [tck@NRC.GOV](mailto:tck@NRC.GOV)), Lee Miller at (404) 562-4672, (Internet E-mail: [lm@NRC.GOV](mailto:lm@NRC.GOV)), or myself at (404) 562-4638, (Internet E-mail: [MEE@NRC.GOV](mailto:MEE@NRC.GOV)).

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

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

Docket Nos. 50-327, 50-328  
License Nos. DPR-77, DPR-79

cc: (See page 3)

cc cont'd:

Karl W. Singer  
Senior Vice President  
Nuclear Operations  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
Electronic Mail Distribution

James E. Maddox, Acting Vice President  
Engineering and Technical Services  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
Electronic Mail Distribution

Richard T. Purcell  
Site Vice President  
Sequoyah Nuclear Plant  
Electronic Mail Distribution

General Counsel  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
Electronic Mail Distribution

Robert J. Adney, General Manager  
Nuclear Assurance  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
Electronic Mail Distribution

Mark J. Burzynski, Manager  
Nuclear Licensing  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
Electronic Mail Distribution

Pedro Salas, Manager  
Licensing and Industry Affairs  
Sequoyah Nuclear Plant  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
Electronic Mail Distribution

D. L. Koehl, Plant Manager  
Sequoyah Nuclear Plant  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
Electronic Mail Distribution

Lawrence E. Nanney, Director  
TN Dept. of Environment & Conservation  
Division of Radiological Health  
Electronic Mail Distribution

County Executive  
Hamilton County Courthouse  
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

Ann Harris  
341 Swing Loop  
Rockwood, TN 37854

John D. White, Jr., Director  
Tennessee Emergency Management  
Agency  
Electronic Mail Distribution

Roy Goodman  
Training Manager  
Sequoyah Nuclear Plant  
P. O. Box 2000  
Soddy-Daisy, TN 37379-2000

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