



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

February 25, 2003

Mr. Dale E. Young, Vice President
Crystal River Nuclear Plant (NA1B)
ATTN: Supervisor, Licensing &
Regulatory Programs
15760 West Power Line Street
Crystal River, FL 34428-6708

**SUBJECT: REACTOR AND SENIOR REACTOR OPERATOR INITIAL EXAMINATIONS -
CRYSTAL RIVER NUCLEAR PLANT 50-302/03-301**

Dear Mr. Young:

In a telephone conversation on February 13, 2003, between Mr. Mark Van Sicklen, Supervisor, Licensed Operator Initial Training, and Ms. Kathleen O'Donohue, Senior Operations Engineer, arrangements were made for the administration of licensing examinations at the Crystal River Nuclear Plant during the week of August 25, 2003. The written exam will be administered August 25, 2003 and the operating exam August 25 - 29, 2003. The on-site preparatory week is scheduled for the week of August 4, 2003.

Crystal River personnel will prepare the examinations based on the guidelines in Draft Revision 9, of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." Your staff will provide the exam material for review as follows: The exam outline by March 17, 2003, the final written (final draft) no later than May 19, 2003, the exam scenarios by June 30, 2003 and the job performance measures (JPMs) by July 21, 2003. The NRC regional office will discuss with your staff any changes that might be necessary before the examinations are administered. The facility has also agreed to make all necessary copies of the examinations prior to administration.

To meet the above schedule, it will be necessary for your staff to furnish the reference materials identified in Attachment 2 of ES-201 as discussed during the phone conversation, to the NRC by March 17, 2003. Any delay in receiving the required reference materials, or the submittal of inadequate or incomplete materials, may cause the examination to be rescheduled.

In order to conduct the requested written examinations and operating tests, it will be necessary for your staff to provide adequate space and accommodations in accordance with ES-402, and 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 written examination is 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 50 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; 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. Van Sicklen 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 Kathleen O'Donohue at (404) 562-4555, (Internet E-mail: KFO@NRC.GOV), or myself at (404) 562-4638, (Internet E-mail: MEE@NRC.GOV).

Sincerely,

/RA/

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

Docket No. 50-302
License No. DPR-72

cc: (See page 3)

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