



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

May 20, 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: BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT - SENIOR OPERATOR INITIAL RETAKE
EXAMINATION 50-259/2003-301, 50-260/2003-301, AND 50-296/2003-301

Dear Mr. Scalice:

On May 8, 2003, the NRC administered a Senior Reactor Operator Initial Operating Part "A" retake examination to an employee of your facility who had applied for a license to operate the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant. The NRC waived the written examination and parts "B" and "C" of the operating examination. At the conclusion of the examination, the examiner discussed the examination and preliminary findings with those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report.

The SRO applicant passed the examination.

In accordance with 10 CFR 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).

Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact me at (404) 562-4638.

Sincerely,

/RA/

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

Docket Nos. 50-259, 50-260, 50-296
License Nos. DPR-33, DPR-52, DPR-68

Enclosure: (See page 2)

Enclosure: Report Details

cc w/encl:

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TVA

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION II

Docket Nos: 50-259, 50-260, 50-296

License Nos: DPR-33, DPR-52, DPR-68

Report Nos: 50-259/03-301, 50-260/03-301, 50-296/03-301

Licensee: Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA)

Facility: Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Units 1, 2, & 3

Location: Corner of Shaw and Nuclear Plant Roads
Athens, AL 35611

Date: Operating Test - May 8, 2003

Examiner: E. Lea, Chief Examiner

Approved by: M. Ernstes, Chief
Operator Licensing and Human Performance Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

ER 05000259/2003-301, ER 05000260/20003-301, ER 05000296/2003-301, on 5/8/2003, Tennessee Valley Authority, Browns Ferry, Units 1, 2 and 3, Licensed Operator Examinations.

An NRC examiner conducted a retake operator licensing initial Part "A" examination in accordance with the guidance of NUREG-1021, Revision 8, Supplement 1, Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors. This examination implemented the operator licensing requirements identified in 10 CFR §55.45.

The NRC administered a Part "A" operating test on May 8, 2003, to a Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) Upgrade applicant. The operating test was developed by members of Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant training staff. The SRO applicant passed the examination and was issued a license.

No significant issues were identified.

Report Details

4. OTHER ACTIVITIES (OA)

4OA5 Operator Licensing Initial Examinations

a. Inspection Scope

The examiner reviewed the licensee's examination security measures while preparing and administering an operator licensing examination to ensure examination security and integrity complied with 10 CFR 55.49, Integrity of examinations and tests. The examiner reviewed the operating examination developed by the licensee for compliance with the guidelines specified in NUREG-1021, Revision 8, Supplement 1. A Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) applicant was granted a waiver by the NRC from taking the written examination and parts "B" and "C" of the operating examination. The applicant passed the written examination and parts "B" and "C" of the operating examination in December 2002.

The examiner evaluated the SRO retake applicant who was being assessed under the guidelines specified in NUREG-1021, Revision 8, Supplement 1. The NRC administered Part "A" of the operating test on May 8, 2003. The evaluation of the applicant and review of documentation were performed to determine if the applicant, who had applied for a license to operate the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, met requirements specified in 10 CFR Part 55.

b. Findings

No findings of significance were identified. The examination materials submitted by the licensee were acceptable.

The applicant passed the examination.

4OA6 Meetings

Exit Meeting Summary

On May 8, 2003, the examiner discussed the examination and preliminary findings with Mr. Terry Chinn, Operations Training Manager, and other members of his staff.

The inspectors asked the licensee whether any materials examined during the inspection should be considered proprietary. No proprietary information was identified.

PARTIAL LIST OF PERSONS CONTACTED

Licensee

T. Chinn, Operations Training Manager

R. Knight, Operations Training Instructor-Lead