

July 21, 2003

Mr. Mark E. Warner
Site Vice President
c/o James M. Peschel
Seabrook Station
P.O. Box 300
Seabrook, NH 03874

SUBJECT: SEABROOK STATION OPERATOR AND SENIOR REACTOR
OPERATOR INITIAL EXAMINATION REPORT NO. 50-443/03-301

Dear Mr. Warner:

This report transmits the results of the Reactor Operator (RO) and Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) licensing examination developed and conducted by the NRC during the period of May 30, 2003 through June 4, 2003. This examination addressed areas important to public health and safety and was developed and administered using the guidelines of the "Examination Standards for Power Reactors" (NUREG-1021, Revision 8, Supplement 1).

Based on the results of the examination, four of five Senior Reactor Operator and four of the five Reactor Operator applicants passed all portions of the examination. One Senior Reactor Operator and one Reactor Operator applicant failed the simulator portion (Part "C" operating test) of the examination. Examination results indicated that generally the applicants were well prepared for the examination. On July 1, 2003, the NRC provided final examination results, including individual license numbers, during a telephone call between Mr. R. Conte and Mr. K. Wright and others of your staff. No findings of significance were identified.

We appreciate the substantial assistance your staff, in particular Mr. Wright, provided us related to the review and comments on the NRC developed initial examination for regional proficiency and examiner certification. If you so desire, we would appreciate any comments to further improve the process.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure 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). These records include the final examination and are available in ADAMS RO and SRO Written - Accession Number ML031830652; RO and SRO Operating Section A - Accession Number ML031830315; RO and SRO Operating Section B - Accession Number ML031830330; and RO and SRO Operating Section C - Accession Number ML031830347, and Facility Post Examination Comments on the Written and Operating Exams - Accession No. ML031200391. ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Mr. Warner

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Should you have any questions regarding this examination, please contact me at (610) 337-5183, or by E-mail at RJC@NRC.GOV.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Richard J. Conte, Chief
Operational Safety Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No. 50-443

License No. NPF-86

Enclosure: Initial Examination Report No. 50-443/03-301

cc w/encl:

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U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION I

Docket No: 05000443

License No: NPF-86

Report No: 05000443/2003301

Licensee: Florida Power & Light Energy

Facility: Seabrook

Dates: May 30, 2003 (Written Examination Administration)
June 2-4, 2003 (Operating Test Administration)
June 4-11, 2003 (Examination Grading/Evaluation)

Examiners: J. Caruso, Senior Operations Engineer (Chief Examiner)
T. Fish, Senior Operations Engineer
J. D'Antonio, Operations Engineer
G. Malone, Operations Engineer (Certification Examination)

Approved by: Richard J. Conte, Chief
Operational Safety Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Enclosure

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

IR 05000443/2003-301; May 30 - June 4, 2003; Seabrook Station; Initial Operator Licensing Examination. Eight of ten applicants passed the examination (4 ROs, 1 SRO instant, and 3 SRO upgrades).

The written examinations were administered by the facility and the operating tests were administered by four NRC region-based examiners. One of the four examiners administered two examinations under the supervision of the chief examiner as part of his examiner certification.

A. Inspector Identified Findings

No findings of significance were identified.

B. Licensee Identified Findings

None.

Report Details

1. REACTOR SAFETY

Mitigating Systems - Reactor Operator (RO) and Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) Initial License Examination

a. Scope of Review

The licensee's examination team developed the written and operating initial examinations and together with NRC personnel verified or ensured, as applicable, the following:

- The examination was prepared and developed in accordance with the guidelines of Revision 8, Supplement 1 of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." A review was conducted both in the Region I office and at the Seabrook Station plant and training facility. Final resolution of comments and incorporation of test revisions were conducted during and following the onsite preparation week.
- Simulation facility operation was proper.
- A test item analysis was completed on the written examination for feedback into the systems approach to training program. (Licensee letter dated June 16, 2003)
- Examination security requirements were met.

The NRC examiners administered the operating portion of the examination to all applicants from June 2-4, 2003. Seabrook Station training staff administered the written examination on May 30, 2003.

b. Findings

Grading and Results

Eight applicants (4 SROs and 4 ROs) passed all portions of the initial licensing examination. One SRO and one RO applicant failed the simulator portion (Part "C" of the operating test) of the examination.

No written post-examination comments were submitted by the licensee.

Examination Preparation and Quality

The quality of the draft examinations was within acceptable range.

Examination Administration and Performance

NRC examiners did not note generic performance errors by the applicants during examination administration.

4. OTHER ACTIVITIES

4OA6 Meetings, including Exit

The examination period was from May 30 to June 11, 2003. On July 1, 2003, the NRC provided conclusions and examination results to Mr. D. Roy, Training Manager, via telephone. License numbers for eight of the ten applicants that passed all portions of the initial licensing examination were also provided during this time.

The NRC expressed appreciation for the cooperation and assistance that was provided during the preparation and administration of the examination by the licensee's training staff.

Attachment 1

KEY POINTS OF CONTACT

LICENSEE

D. Roy, Training Manager
K. Wright, Supervisor of the Licensed Operator Initial Training Program

NRC

J. Caruso, Senior Operations Engineer (Chief Examiner)
T. Fish, Senior Operations Engineer
J. D'Antonio, Operations Engineer
G. Malone, Operations Engineer (Certification Examination)

LIST OF ITEMS OPENED, CLOSED, AND DISCUSSED

None