



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
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ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8931

September 15, 2003

South Carolina Electric & Gas Company
ATTN: Mr. Steve A. Byrne
Vice President, Nuclear Operations
Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station
P. O. Box 88
Jenkinsville, SC 29065

**SUBJECT: REACTOR AND SENIOR REACTOR OPERATOR INITIAL EXAMINATIONS
VIRGIL C. SUMMER NUCLEAR STATION - 05000395/2004-301**

Dear Mr. Byrne:

In a telephone conversation on September 10, 2003 between Mr. Al Koon, Supervisor Nuclear Operations Training and Mr. Richard S. Baldwin, Senior Operations Engineer, arrangements were made for the administration of licensing examinations at Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station during the weeks of April 19, 2004 (operating examination) and April 26, 2004 (written examination). The on-site preparatory week is scheduled for the week of March 29, 2004.

As agreed during the telephone conversation, the NRC will prepare the written examination and the operating test outlines. Your staff has agreed to fill in the scenario details (ES-D-2) and the details of the JPMs based on the guidelines in Draft Revision 9, of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." The facility has also agreed to make all of the copies of the examination materials prior to administration. Your staff will be given the opportunity to review the examinations during the week of February 23, 2004.

To meet the above schedule, it will be necessary for your staff to furnish the reference materials identified in Attachment 2 of ES-201 by September 29, 2003. All materials shall be complete and ready-to-use. Any delay in receiving the required reference materials, or the submittal of inadequate or incomplete materials, may cause the examinations 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 examinations and operating tests are being administered.

To permit timely NRC review and evaluation, your staff should submit preliminary reactor 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 first 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 first 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 Part 55 (3150-0018), which expires on June 30, 2006. 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, (3150-0018), 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.

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).

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Mr. Koon 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 Richard S. Baldwin at (404) 562-4642, (Internet E-mail: RSB2@NRC.GOV), or myself at (404) 562-4638, (Internet E-mail: MEE@NRC.GOV).

Sincerely,

/RA/

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

Docket No. 50-395
License No. NPF-12

cc: (See page 3)

(cc cont'd)

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