

April 29, 2004

Mr. M. Nazar
Senior Vice President and
Chief Nuclear Officer
Nuclear Generation Group
American Electric Power Company
500 Circle Drive
Buchanan, MI 49107

SUBJECT: D. C. COOK NUCLEAR POWER PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2
NRC INITIAL LICENSE EXAMINATION REPORT 05000315/2004301(DRS);
05000316/2004301(DRS)

Dear Mr. Nazar:

On March 25, 2004, the NRC completed administration of initial operator licensing examinations at your D. C. Cook Nuclear Power Station. The NRC finalized the results of the examination on April 19, 2004. The enclosed report presents the results of the examinations.

NRC examiners administered the operating test during the weeks of March 15 and 22, 2004. Members of the D. C. Cook Nuclear Plant Training Department administered an initial license written examination on March 29, 2004, to the applicants. Nine Reactor Operator (RO) and four Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) applicants were administered written examinations and operating tests for initial operator licensing. Twelve applicants passed all sections of their respective examinations. One SRO applicant failed the operating test and will not be issued a license.

In accordance with 10 CFR Part 2.390 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). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

M. Nazar

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We will gladly discuss any questions you have concerning this examination.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Roger D. Lanksbury, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-315; 50-316
License Nos. DPR-58; DPR-74

Enclosures: 1. Operator Licensing Examination
Report 05000315/2004301(DRS);
05000316/2004301(DRS)
2. Simulation Facility Report
3. Written Examinations and Answer
Keys (RO & SRO)

cc w/encls 1 & 2: J. Jensen, Site Vice President
M. Finissi, Plant Manager
R. Whale, Michigan Public Service Commission
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Emergency Management Division
MI Department of State Police
D. Lochbaum, Union of Concerned Scientists

cc w/encls 1, 2, & 3: L. Meyer, Training Manager

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U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION III

Docket Nos: 50-315; 50-316
License Nos: DPR-58; DPR-74

Report Nos: 05000315/2004301(DRS); 05000316/2004301(DRS)

Licensee: American Electric Power Company

Facility: D. C. Cook Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2

Location: 1 Cook Place
Bridgman, MI 49106

Dates: March 15 through March 25, 2004

Examiners: M. Bielby, Chief Examiner
K. Walton, Examiner
B. Palagi, Examiner

Approved by: Roger D. Lanksbury, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Enclosure 1

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

ER 05000315/2004301(DRS); 05000316/2004301(DRS); 02/02/2004-02/05/2004; D. C. Cook Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2.

The announced operator licensing initial examination was conducted by regional examiners in accordance with the guidance of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 8, Supplement 1.

Examination Summary:

- Thirteen examinations (nine Reactor Operator (RO) and four Senior Reactor Operator (SRO)) were administered.
- One licensed RO applicant failed the SRO operating examination and will not be issued a senior operator license. All thirteen applicants passed the written examination. (Section 4OA5.1)
- Nine RO and three SRO applicants passed all sections of their respective examinations. (Section 4OA5.1)

REPORT DETAILS

4. OTHER ACTIVITIES (OA)

4OA5 Other

.1 Initial Licensing Examinations

a. Examination Scope

The NRC examiners conducted an announced operator licensing initial examination during the weeks of March 15 and March 22, 2004. The NRC used the guidance established in NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 8, to prepare the examination outline and to develop the written examination and operating test. The NRC examiners administered the operating test during the weeks of March 15 and March 22, 2004. The facility's training department administered the written examination on March 29, 2004. Nine Reactor Operator (RO) and four Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) applicants were examined.

b. Findings

Written Examination

The licensee developed the written examination. During their initial review, the examiners determined that the examination, as submitted by the licensee, was within the range of acceptability expected for a proposed examination. During examination validation the week of February 23, 2004, examination changes agreed upon between the NRC and the licensee were incorporated according to the guidance contained in NUREG-1021.

The licensee had no post examination comments on the written examination.

Operating Test

The NRC examiners determined that the operating test, as originally submitted by the licensee, was within the range of acceptability expected for a proposed examination. Examination changes, agreed upon between the NRC and the licensee, were made during the validation week in accordance with NUREG-1021 guidance. The licensee submitted no post examination comments on the operating test.

Examination Results

Nine RO and four SRO applicants were administered written examinations and operating tests for initial operator licensing. Twelve applicants passed all sections of their respective examinations. One SRO applicant failed the operating test and will not be issued a license.

.2 Examination Security

a. Inspection Scope

The examiners reviewed and observed the licensee's implementation of examination security requirements during the examination preparation and administration.

b. Findings

The licensee's implementation of examination security requirements during examination preparation and administration were acceptable and met the guidelines provided in NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." No violations of 10 CFR 55.49 occurred during the examination preparation and administration.

4OA6 Meetings

.1 Exit Meeting

The chief examiner presented the examination team's preliminary observations and findings on March 26, 2004, to Mr. Jensen and other members of the Operations and Training Department staff. The licensee acknowledged the observations and findings presented.

ATTACHMENT: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

KEY POINTS OF CONTACT

Licensee

J. Jensen, Site Vice President
M. Finissi, Plant Manager
I. Fleetwood, ILT Lead Supervisor
B. Gillespie, Operations Manager
T. McCool, Operations-Shift Manager
L. Meyer, Training Manager
M. Mierau, PA Manager
R. Sieber, Operations Training Manager
J. Waddell, Manager SPS
J. Zwolinski, Design Engineering/Regulatory Affairs Director

NRC

R. Lanksbury, Chief, Operations Branch, Division of Reactor Safety
M. Bielby, Chief Examiner
K. Walton, Examiner
I. Netzel, Resident Inspector DC Cook

ITEMS OPENED, CLOSED AND DISCUSSED

Opened

None

Closed

None

Discussed

None

LIST OF ACRONYMS USED

ADAMS	Agency-Wide Document Access and Management System
DRS	Division of Reactor Safety
NRC	Nuclear Regulatory Commission
RO	Reactor Operator
SRO	Senior Reactor Operator

Simulation Facility Report

Facility Licensee: D. C. Cook Nuclear Power Plant

Facility Docket No.: 50-315; 50-316

Operating Tests Administered: March 15 - 25, 2004

The following documents observations made by the NRC examination team during the initial operator license examination. These observations do not constitute audit or inspection findings and are not, without further verification and review, indicative of non-compliance with 10 CFR 55.45(b). These observations do not affect NRC certification or approval of the simulation facility other than to provide information which may be used in future evaluations. No licensee action is required in response to these observations.

During the conduct of the simulator portion of the operating tests, the following items were observed:

ITEM	DESCRIPTION
Simulator	During exam administration of one scenario, the simulator quit updating after initiation of the major transient. The simulator was turned over to software personnel who identified that the simulator code had not run within the prescribed time, and as a result, the simulator halted (quit updating). The simulator did not halt during validation week, nor during two repeats of the same scenario.

WRITTEN EXAMINATIONS AND ANSWER KEYS (RO/SRO)

- D. C. Cook Initial RO Examination ADAMS Accession #ML041120036
- D. C. Cook Initial RO Examination Answer Key ADAMS Accession #ML041120042
- D. C. Cook Initial SRO Examination ADAMS Accession #ML041120045
- D. C. Cook Initial SRO Examination Answer Key ADAMS Accession #ML041120047