



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION II
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ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8931

April 18, 2005

Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
ATTN: Mr. L. M. Stinson
Vice President
P. O. Box 1295
Birmingham, AL 35201

SUBJECT: SENIOR REACTOR OPERATOR INITIAL RETAKE EXAMINATION - FARLEY
NUCLEAR STATION 05000348/2005302 AND 05000364/2005302

Dear Mr. Stinson:

During a phone conversation on April 11, 2005, between Mr. Tom Blindauer, Senior Operations Training Instructor, and Mr. Edwin Lea, Senior Operations Engineer, arrangements were made for the administration of a licensing retake simulator test at the Farley Nuclear Station on July 7, 2005. The on-site preparatory visit is scheduled for June 27-28, 2005.

As agreed during this conversation, the NRC will prepare scenario outlines and your staff will develop the required actions for the scenarios based on the guidelines in Revision 9, of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." The NRC regional office will discuss with your staff any changes that might be necessary before the test is administered.

To meet the above schedule, it will be necessary for your staff to furnish the complete operating test, and the supporting reference materials by May 30, 2005. Pursuant to 10 CFR 55.40(b)(3), an authorized representative of the facility licensee shall approve the operating test before it is submitted to the NRC for review and approval. All materials shall be complete and ready-to-use. Any delay in receiving the required examination and reference materials, or the submittal of inadequate or incomplete materials, may cause the examination to be rescheduled.

In order to conduct the requested operating test, it will be necessary for your staff to provide adequate space and accommodations 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 operating test being administered.

To permit timely NRC review and evaluation, your staff should submit the preliminary senior reactor operator license application (Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval number 3150-0090), medical certification (OMB approval number 3150-0024), and waiver request (OMB approval number 3150-0090) at least 30 days before the examination date. If the application is not received at least 30 days before the examination date, a postponement may be necessary. A signed application 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 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, writing the examinations, 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.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC's Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the Electronic Reading Room page of the NRC's public Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Mr. Blindauer 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 Edwin Lea at (404) 562-4567, (Internet Email: EXL2@NRC.GOV), or me at (404) 562-4647, (Internet E-mail: JHM2@NRC.GOV).

Sincerely,

/RA/

James H. Moorman, III, Chief
Operator Licensing Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos.: 50-348, 50-364

License Nos.: NPF2, NPF-8

cc: (See next page)

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