

February 2, 2006

Mr. Britt T. McKinney
Senior Vice- President & Chief Nuclear Officer
PPL Susquehanna, LLC
769 Salem BLVD. - NUCSB3
Berwick, PA 18603-0467

SUBJECT: SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2
OPERATOR AND SENIOR REACTOR OPERATOR INITIAL EXAMINATION
REPORT NO. 05000387 AND 05000388/2006301

Dear Mr. McKinney:

This report transmits the results of the Reactor Operator (RO) and Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) licensing examination conducted by the NRC during the period of December 12-15, 2005. 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 9).

Based on the results of the examination, six of six SRO applicants and three of three RO applicants passed all portions of the examination. Examination results indicated that the applicants were well prepared for the examination. Mr. Fish discussed performance insights observed during the examination with Mr. R. Boesch on December 15, 2005. On January 6, 2006, final examination results, including individual license numbers, were given during a telephone call between Mr. Fish and Mr. Boesch.

In accordance with 10 CFR 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). These records include the final examination and are available in ADAMS (Master File - Accession Number ML041340026; RO and SRO Written Examination with Answer Key - Accession Number ML060310527; RO and SRO Operating Exam Section A - Accession Number ML060310559; RO and SRO Operating Exam Section B - Accession Number ML060310564; and RO and SRO Operating Exam Section C - Accession Number ML060310572. ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Mr. Britt T. McKinney

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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
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-387, 50-388
License Nos. NPF-14, NPF-22

Enclosure: Initial Examination Report No. 05000387 and 05000388/2006301

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U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION I

Docket Nos: 50-387, 50-388

License Nos: NPF-14, NPF-22

Report Nos: 05000387 and 05000388/2006301

Licensee: PPL Susquehanna, LLC

Facility: Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Units 1 and 2

Dates: December 20, 2005 (Written Examination Administration)
December 12-15, 2005 (Operating Test Administration)
December 16-30, 2005 (Examination Grading)
December 28, 2005 Examination Period End (Facility Post
Examination Comments)

Examiners: T. Fish, Sr. Operations Engineer (Chief Examiner)
G. Johnson, Operations Engineer
H. Balian, Operations Engineer

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

Enclosure

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

IR 05000387 and 05000388/2006301; December 12-20, 2005; Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Units 1 and 2; Initial Operator Licensing Examination. Nine of nine applicants passed the examination (3 ROs; 6 SRO instants).

The written examinations were administered by the facility and the operating tests were administered by three NRC region-based examiners. There were no inspection findings of significance associated with the examinations.

Report Details

1. REACTOR SAFETY

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

a. Scope of Review

The NRC examination team developed the written examination and Susquehanna Steam Electric Station (SSES) training staff developed the operating initial examination. NRC examiners, together with SSES training and operations personnel, verified or ensured, as applicable, the following:

- The examination was prepared and developed in accordance with the guidelines of Revision 9, of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." A review was conducted both in the Region I office and at the SSES 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 facility's systems approach to training program.
- Examination security requirements were met.

The NRC examiners administered the operating portion of the examination to all applicants from December 12-15, 2005. SSES training staff administered the written examination on December 20, 2005.

b. Findings

Grading and Results

All nine applicants (3 ROs and 6 SROs) passed all portions of the initial licensing examination.

The facility submitted post-examination comments regarding one question on the written examination. These comments are Attachment 2 to this report. NRC resolution of the comments are Attachment 3 to this report. The NRC examination team accepted the facility's comment and revised the written exam and answer key accordingly.

Examination Administration and Performance

No findings of significance were identified.

Enclosure

4OA6 Exit Meeting Summary

On January 6, 2006, the NRC provided conclusions and examination results to SSES management representatives via the telephone. License numbers for all nine applicants 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

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

KEY POINTS OF CONTACT

LICENSEE

R. Brooks	Lead, SSES Exam Developer
J. Seek	SSES Exam Developer
R. Chin	SSES Exam Developer
C. Hess	SSES Simulator Supervisor

LIST OF ITEMS OPENED, CLOSED, AND DISCUSSED

<u>ITEM NUMBER</u>	<u>TYPE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
NONE		

A2-1

ATTACHMENT 2

**Licensee's Post Written Examination Comments
Not Publically Available (Due to Sensitive Information)**

ADAMS Accession No. ML060320238

ATTACHMENT 3

NRC Resolution of Licensee's Post Written Examination Comments

The licensee provided information regarding the accuracy of question #48. The NRC exam team reviewed this information and also independently reviewed the technical documents associated with this question. The NRC exam team's findings are summarized below.

The correct answer to Part (1) of the question is "250-VDC PREFERRED Source (1D662, 2D142)," and, of the four possible answers, is only found in Part (1) of distractor "D." The correct answer to Part (2) of the question - and the focus of the licensee's comments - is "480-VAC PREFERRED Source (1B236, 1B246, 2B236, 2B246)." However, this choice is not available in any of the four possible answers.

Based on the licensee's information and an independent NRC technical review, the NRC accepted the licensee's comment and agreed with the facility that question #48 had no correct answer. Therefore, the NRC exam team deleted the question from the exam and modified the answer key accordingly.