



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
612 EAST LAMAR BLVD, SUITE 400
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November 12, 2008

Mr. Ross T. Ridenoure
Senior Vice President and
Chief Nuclear Officer
Southern California Edison Company
San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station
P.O. Box 128
San Clemente, CA 92674-0128

SUBJECT: SAN ONOFRE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNIT 2, UNIT 3,
NOTIFICATION OF NRC INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSING RETAKE
EXAMINATION 05000361/2009301; 05000362/2009301

Dear Mr. Ridenoure:

In a telephone conversation on November 6, 2008, between Messrs. Bill Arbour, Operations Training Supervisor and Tom McKernon, Chief Examiner, arrangements were made for the administration of a licensing retake examination at SONGS, Unit 2, Unit 3, during the week of February 2, 2009.

As agreed during the telephone conversation, your staff will prepare the examination based on the guidelines in NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 9, Supplement 1, and NUREG-1122, "Knowledge and Abilities Catalog for Nuclear Power Plant Operators," Revision 2, Supplement 1. The NRC's regional office will discuss with your staff any changes that might be necessary before the examination is administered.

To meet the above schedule, it will be necessary for your staff to furnish the examination outlines and the draft retake examination by January 5, 2009. The examination shall include supporting reference materials identified in Attachment 3 to ES-201. Pursuant to Title 10, Section 55.40(b)(3), of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR 55.40(b)(3)), an authorized representative of the facility licensee shall approve the outlines, examination, and quality checklists before they are submitted to the NRC for review and approval. All materials shall be complete and ready-to-use. We request that any personal, proprietary, sensitive unclassified, or safeguards information in your response be contained in a separate enclosure and appropriately marked. Any delay in receiving the required examination and reference materials, or the submittal of inadequate or incomplete materials, may cause the examinations to be rescheduled.

In order to conduct the requested retake examination, 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 to NUREG-1021 contains a number of NRC policies and guidelines that will be in effect while the retake examination is being administered.

To permit timely NRC review and evaluation, your staff should submit the preliminary senior operator license application (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) by January 5, 2009. If the application is not received at least by the above 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, no later than January 19, 2009.

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 OMB, under approval number 3150-0018, which expires on June 30, 2009. 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 regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of these information collections, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Records and FOIA/Privacy Services Branch (T-5 F52), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, or by Internet electronic mail to INFOCOLLECTS@NRC.GOV.

The NRC may neither conduct nor sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, an information collection, 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 and its enclosures 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. Martin 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 Mr. Tom McKernon at 817-860-8153, or myself at 817-860-8159.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Ryan E. Lantz, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

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