



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
612 EAST LAMAR BLVD, SUITE 400
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4125

March 10, 2009

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, UNITS 2, AND 3 -
NOTIFICATION OF NRC INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSING EXAMINATION
05000361/2009302; 05000362/2009302

Dear Mr. Ridenoure:

In a telephone conversation on February 23, 2009, between Messrs. Bill Arbour and Gabriel Ager, Chief Examiner, arrangements were made for the administration of licensing examinations at San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station during the weeks of October 19 and October 26, 2009.

As agreed during the telephone conversation, your staff will prepare the examinations 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 examinations are administered.

To meet the above schedule, and as agreed to in the telephone conversation, it will be necessary for your staff to furnish the examination outlines by March 20, 2009. The written examinations, operating tests, and supporting reference materials identified in Attachment 3 to ES-201 will be due by August 17, 2009. 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, examinations, and tests 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 examinations and reference materials, or the submittal of inadequate or incomplete materials, may cause the examinations to be rescheduled. In addition, your support for on-site validation of the examinations is required during the week of September 14, 2009.

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 to 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 operator and senior 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 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, 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. Arbour 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. Apger at 817-276-6508, or myself at 817-860-8159.

Sincerely,

/RA/

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

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County of San Diego
1600 Pacific Highway, Room 335
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Gary L. Nolff
Assistant Director-Resources
City of Riverside
3900 Main Street
Riverside, CA 92522

Mark L. Parsons
Deputy City Attorney
City of Riverside
3900 Main Street
Riverside, CA 92522

Gary H. Yamamoto, P.E., Chief
Division of Drinking Water and
Environmental Management
1616 Capitol Avenue, MS 7400
P.O. Box 997377
Sacramento, CA 95899-7377

Southern California Edison Company

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Michael J. DeMarco
San Onofre Liaison
San Diego Gas & Electric Company
8315 Century Park Ct. CP21G
San Diego, CA 92123-1548

Director, Radiological Health Branch
State Department of Health Services
P.O. Box 997414 (MS 7610)
Sacramento, CA 95899-7414

Mayor
City of San Clemente
100 Avenida Presidio
San Clemente, CA 92672

James D. Boyd, Commissioner
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street (MS 34)
Sacramento, CA 95814

Douglas K. Porter, Esq.
Southern California Edison Company
2244 Walnut Grove Avenue
Rosemead, CA 91770

Albert R. Hochevar
Southern California Edison Company
San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station
P.O. Box 128
San Clemente, CA 92675

A. Edward Scherer
Southern California Edison Company
San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station
P.O. Box 128
San Clemente, CA 92674-0128

Mr. Steve Hsu
Department of Health Services
Radiologic Health Branch
MS 7610, P.O. Box 997414
Sacramento, CA 95899-7414

Southern California Edison Company

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Mr. Mike Short
Southern California Edison Company
San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station
P.O. Box 128
San Clemente, CA 92674-0128

Chief, Technological Hazards Branch
FEMA Region 9
1111 Broadway, Suite 1200
Oakland, CA 94607-4052

Electronic distribution by RIV:

- Regional Administrator (Elmo.Collins@nrc.gov)
- Deputy Regional Administrator (Chuck.Casto@nrc.gov)
- DRP Director (Dwight.Chamberlain@nrc.gov)
- DRP Deputy Director (Anton.Vegel@nrc.gov)
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- SO Site Secretary (Heather.Hutchinson@nrc.gov)
- Public Affairs Officer (Victor.Dricks@nrc.gov)
- Team Leader, DRP/TSS (Chuck.Paulk@nrc.gov)
- RITS Coordinator (Marisa.Herrera@nrc.gov)

Only inspection reports to the following:

- DRS STA (Dale.Powers@nrc.gov)
- OEDO RIV Coordinator, Primary (Shawn.Williams@nrc.gov)
- OEDO RIV Coordinator, Backup (Eugene.Guthrie@nrc.gov)
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