



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
REGION II  
SAM NUNN ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER  
61 FORSYTH STREET, SW, SUITE 23T85  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8931

May 28, 2009

Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.  
ATTN: Mr. Dennis R. Madison  
Vice President - Hatch  
Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant  
11028 Hatch Parkway North  
Baxley, GA 31513

SUBJECT: EDWIN I. HATCH NUCLEAR PLANT – NRC OPERATOR LICENSE  
EXAMINATION REPORT 05000321/2009301 AND 05000366/2009301

Dear Mr. Madison:

During the period April 20 – 22, 2009, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) administered operating tests to employees of your company who had applied for licenses to operate the Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant Units 1 and 2. At the conclusion of the tests, the examiners discussed preliminary findings related to the operating tests and the written examination submittal with those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report. The written examination was administered by your staff on April 30, 2009.

All applicants passed both the operating test and written examination. There were no post-examination comments. A Simulator Fidelity Report is included in this report as Enclosure 2.

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 Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of the NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm.adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact me at (404) 562-4550.

Sincerely,  
/RA/  
Malcolm T. Widmann, Chief  
Operations Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos: 50-321, 50-366  
License Nos: DPR-57, NPF-5

Enclosures: 1. Report Details  
2. Simulator Fidelity Report

(cc: w/encl – See Page 2)

cc w/encl:  
Angela Thornhill  
Managing Attorney and Compliance Officer  
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.  
Electronic Mail Distribution

Jeffrey T. Gasser  
Executive Vice President  
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.  
Electronic Mail Distribution

Raymond D. Baker  
Licensing Manager  
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.  
Electronic Mail Distribution

L. Mike Stinson  
Vice President  
Fleet Operations Support  
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.  
Electronic Mail Distribution

David H. Jones  
Vice President  
Engineering  
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.  
Electronic Mail Distribution

Moanica Caston  
Vice President and General Counsel  
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.  
Electronic Mail Distribution

Steven B. Tipps  
Hatch Principal Engineer - Licensing  
Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant  
Electronic Mail Distribution

Mr. Ken Rosanski  
Resident Manager  
Edwin I. Hatch  
Oglethorpe Power Corporation  
Electronic Mail Distribution

Lee Foley  
Manager of Contracts Generation  
Oglethorpe Power Corporation  
Electronic Mail Distribution

Bob Masse  
Resident Manager  
Vogle Electric Generating Plant  
Oglethorpe Power Corporation  
Electronic Mail Distribution

Senior Resident Inspector  
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.  
Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant  
U.S. NRC  
11030 Hatch Parkway N  
Baxley, GA 30334

Arthur H. Dombay, Esq.  
Troutman Sanders  
Electronic Mail Distribution

Dr. Carol Couch  
Director  
Environmental Protection  
Department of Natural Resources  
Electronic Mail Distribution

Cynthia Sanders  
Program Manager  
Radioactive Materials Program  
Department of Natural Resources  
Electronic Mail Distribution

Jim Sommerville  
(Acting) Chief  
Environmental Protection Division  
Department of Natural Resources  
Electronic Mail Distribution

(cc: w/encl – Cont'd See Page 3)

cc w/encl:

Mr. Steven M. Jackson  
Senior Engineer - Power Supply  
Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia  
Electronic Mail Distribution

Mr. Reece McAlister  
Executive Secretary  
Georgia Public Service Commission  
Electronic Mail Distribution

Chairman  
Appling County Commissioners  
County Courthouse  
69 Tippins Street, Suite 201  
Baxley, GA 31513

Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.  
ATTN: Mr. John Hammonds  
Training Manager  
Hatch Nuclear Plant  
11028 Hatch Parkway North  
Baxley, GA 31513

**U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

**REGION II**

Docket No.: 50-321, 50-366

License No.: DPR-57, NPF-5

Report No.: 05000321/2009301 and 05000366/2009301

Licensee: Southern Nuclear Power Company (SNPCO)

Facility: Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant, Units 1 & 2

Location: 11030 Hatch Parkway N.  
Baxley, GA 31513

Dates: Operating Test – April 20 – 22, 2009  
Written Examination – April 30, 2009

Examiners: Bruno Caballero, Chief Examiner, Operations Engineer  
Phil Capehart, Operations Engineer

Approved by: Malcolm T. Widmann, Chief  
Operations Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

## **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

ER 05000321/2009301 and 05000366/2009301; April 20 – 22, 2009 & April 30, 2009; Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant, Units 1 & 2; Operator License Examinations.

Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) examiners conducted an initial examination in accordance with the guidelines in Revision 9, Supplement 1, of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." This examination implemented the operator licensing requirements identified in 10 CFR §55.41, §55.43, and §55.45, as applicable.

Members of the Edwin I. Hatch staff developed both the operating tests and the written examination.

The NRC administered the operating tests during the period April 20 – 22, 2009. Members of the Edwin I. Hatch training staff administered the written examination on April 30, 2009. All Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) applicants passed both the operating test and written examination. One Reactor Operator (RO), who had previously passed the operating exam, but had failed a written examination, passed the written examination and was waived from the operating test. All applicants were issued licenses commensurate with the level of examination administered. There were no post-examination comments.

No findings of significance were identified.

## REPORT DETAILS

### 4. OTHER ACTIVITIES

#### 4OA5 Operator Licensing Examinations

##### a. Inspection Scope

Members of the Edwin I. Hatch staff developed both the operating tests and the written examination. All examination material was developed in accordance with the guidelines contained in Revision 9, Supplement 1, of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." The NRC examination team reviewed the proposed examination. Examination changes agreed upon between the NRC and the licensee were made per NUREG-1021 and incorporated into the final version of the examination materials.

The NRC reviewed the licensee's examination security measures while preparing and administering the examinations in order to ensure compliance with 10 CFR §55.49, "Integrity of examinations and tests."

The NRC examiners evaluated two Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) applicants using the guidelines contained in NUREG-1021. The examiners administered the operating tests during the period April 20 – 22, 2009. Members of the Edwin I. Hatch training staff administered the written examination on April 30, 2009, to two SRO applicants and one RO applicant. Evaluations of applicants and reviews of associated documentation were performed to determine if the applicants, who applied for licenses to operate the Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant, met the requirements specified in 10 CFR Part 55, "Operators' Licenses."

##### b. Findings

No findings of significance were identified.

The NRC determined, using NUREG-1021 that the licensee's examination submittal (operating and written) was within the range of acceptability expected for a proposed examination.

Both Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) applicants passed both the operating test and written examination. One Reactor Operator (RO), who had previously passed the operating exam, but failed the written, passed the written retake examination and was waived from the operating test. One RO applicant and two SRO applicants were issued licenses.

Copies of all individual examination reports were sent to the facility Training Manager for evaluation of weaknesses and determination of appropriate remedial training.

The licensee did not submit any post-examination comments. A copy of the final RO written examination and answer key and final SRO written examination and answer key (SRO exam in 2 parts) with all changes incorporated, may be accessed in the ADAMS system (ADAMS Accession Numbers ML091320207, ML091320198, and ML091320204, respectively).

40A6 Meetings, Including Exit

Exit Meeting Summary

On April 23, 2009 the NRC examination team discussed generic issues associated with the operating test with Mr. Sonny L. Bargeron, Plant Manager, and members of the Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant staff. The examiners asked the licensee if any of the examination material was proprietary. No proprietary information was identified.

**KEY POINTS OF CONTACT**

Licensee personnel

Sonny L. Bargeron, Plant Manager  
Gary R. Brinson, Operations Manager  
Steve Grantham, Operations Training Supervisor  
Charlie Edmund, Plant Instructor - Lead

NRC personnel

Phil Niebaum, Resident Inspector

## SIMULATOR FIDELITY REPORT

Facility Licensee: Edwin I. Hatch

Facility Docket No.: 50-321, 50-366

Operating Test Administered: April 20 – 22, 2009

This form is to be used only to report observations. These observations do not constitute audit or inspection findings and, without further verification and review in accordance with Inspection Procedure 71111.11 are not indicative of noncompliance with 10 CFR 55.46. No licensee action is required in response to these observations.

While conducting the simulator portion of the operating test, examiners observed the following:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Description</u>
1.	SCR 20090402: During a loss of Control Rod Drive at low power (2%, pressure @ 400 psig), mfC12_27_22_23, "Accumulator Trouble light for rod 22-23" was activated. This rod was fully inserted. At this time, both CRD pumps were off. When a CRD pump was started, the rod with the accumulator malfunction received a rod drift. This rod drift was not expected and the reason for receiving it was not obvious. Only the rod with the accumulator malfunction (12_27_22-23) received the rod drift. Subsequently, the simulator was reset and the accumulator malfunction was activated on a different control rod (C12_12_30_23). When a CRD pump was started, only the rod with the accumulator malfunction received the rod drift. The indications on the CRD system at the time were that CRD discharge pressure reached 1500 psig, the flow control valves were closed, and cooling water flow went to approximately 10 gpm.



May 28, 2009

Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.  
ATTN: Mr. Dennis R. Madison  
Vice President - Hatch  
Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant  
11028 Hatch Parkway North  
Baxley, GA 31513

SUBJECT: EDWIN I. HATCH NUCLEAR PLANT – NRC OPERATOR LICENSE  
EXAMINATION REPORT 05000321/2009301 AND 05000366/2009301

Dear Mr. Madison:

During the period April 20 – 22, 2009, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) administered operating tests to employees of your company who had applied for licenses to operate the Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant Units 1 and 2. At the conclusion of the tests, the examiners discussed preliminary findings related to the operating tests and the written examination submittal with those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report. The written examination was administered by your staff on April 30, 2009.

All applicants passed both the operating test and written examination. There were no post-examination comments. A Simulator Fidelity Report is included in this report as Enclosure 2.

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 Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of the NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm.adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact me at (404) 562-4550.

Sincerely,  
**/RA/**  
Malcolm T. Widmann, Chief  
Operations Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos: 50-321, 50-366  
License Nos: DPR-57, NPF-5

Enclosures: 1. Report Details  
2. Simulator Fidelity Report

(cc: w/encl – See Page 2)

ADAMS:  Yes      ACCESSION NUMBER: ML091480270       SUNSI REVIEW COMPLETE       PUBLICLY AVAILABLE       NON-SENSITIVE

OFFICE	RII:DRS	RII:DRS	RII: DRP	
SIGNATURE	BLC2	MTW	SMS	
NAME	Bruno Caballero	Malcolm Widmann	Scott Schaeffer	
DATE	5/27/2009	5/27/2009	5/27/2009	
E-MAIL COPY?	YES      NO	YES      NO	YES      NO	YES      NO

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY    DOCUMENT NAME: O:\HATCH EXAMINATIONS\INITIAL EXAM 2009-301\CORRESPONDENCE\EXAM REPORT COVER LETTER(REV 2).DOC