



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

August 14, 2009

Mr. J. Randy Johnson
Vice President - Farley
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
7388 North State Highway 95
Columbia, AL 36319

SUBJECT: JOSEPH M. FARLEY NUCLEAR PLANT - NOTIFICATION OF LICENSED
OPERATOR INITIAL EXAMINATION 05000348/2010301 AND
05000364/2010301

Dear Mr. Johnson:

In a telephone conversation on August 14, 2009, between Mr. Gary Ohmstede, Lead Instructor of Exam Development, and Mr. Mark Bates, Senior Operations Engineer, arrangements were made for the administration of licensing examinations at the Farley Nuclear Plant. The operating test is scheduled to be administered during the weeks of March 8 and March 15, 2010. The written examination is scheduled to be administered the week of March 15, 2010. The on-site preparatory week is scheduled for the week of February 8, 2010.

As agreed during the telephone conversation, your staff will prepare both the operating test and written examination based on the guidelines in Revision 9, Supplement 1, of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) regional office will discuss with your staff any changes that might be necessary before the examinations are administered. Your staff has also agreed to make all copies of examination materials that are necessary for administering the exam.

To meet the above schedule, it will be necessary for your staff to furnish the operating test outline by September 8, 2009. Mr. Bates provided the written examination outline to your staff in July, 2009. The operating test, written examination, and the supporting reference materials identified in Attachment 3 to ES-201 will be due by January 4, 2010. 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 test 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 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,

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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 written examinations and operating tests are being administered.

To permit timely NRC review and evaluation, your staff should submit preliminary reactor operator and senior reactor operator license applications, medical certifications, and waiver requests (if any) 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 the Office of Management and Budget. The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 500 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 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, (3150-0018), Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

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

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Mr. Ohmstede 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. Bates at (404) 562-4612, (Internet E-mail: Mark.Bates@nrc.gov) or me at (404) 562-4550, (Internet E-mail: Malcolm.Widmann@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

/FJE RA for/

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

Docket Nos.: 50-348, 50-364
License Nos.: NPF-2, NPF-8

cc: (See Page 3)

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