



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

REGION III
2443 WARRENVILLE ROAD, SUITE 210
LISLE, IL 60532-4352

August 13, 2010

Mr. Larry Weber
Senior Vice President and
Chief Nuclear Officer
Indiana Michigan Power Company
Nuclear Generation Group
One Cook Place
Bridgman, MI 49106

SUBJECT: D. C. COOK NUCLEAR POWER PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2
INITIAL LICENSING EXAM REPORT 05000315/2010301; 05000316/2010301

Dear Mr. Weber:

On July 9, 2010, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) examiners completed initial operator licensing examination process at your D. C. Cook Nuclear Power Plant. The enclosed report documents the results of the examination which were discussed at a preliminary debrief meeting conducted on July 1, between Mr. J. Gibbie of your staff and Mr. Raymond Keith Walton, Senior Operations Engineer. The NRC received the facility's letter regarding post-examination comments on July 9, 2010, and via telephone exit, confirmed receipt of post-examination material with training personnel.

The NRC examiners administered an initial license examination operating test during the weeks of June 21 and 28, 2010. The written examination was administered by D. C. Cook Training Department personnel on July 2, 2010. Six Senior Reactor Operator and eight Reactor Operator applicants were administered license examinations. The results of the examinations were finalized on August 2, 2010. Fourteen applicants passed all sections of their respective examinations and six were issued senior operator licenses and eight were issued operator licenses.

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), accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

L. Weber

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We will gladly discuss any questions you have concerning this examination.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Hironori Peterson, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-315; 50-316
License Nos. DPR-58; DPR-74

Enclosures: 1. Operator Licensing Examination
Report 05000315/2010301(DRS); 05000316/2010301(DRS)
w/Attachment: Supplemental Information
2. Simulation Facility Report
3. Written Examinations and Answer Keys (RO & SRO)

cc w/encl: Distribution via ListServ

U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION III

Docket Nos: 50-315; 50-316

License Nos: DPR-58; DPR-74

Report Nos. 05000315/2010301; 05000316/2010301

Licensee: Indiana Michigan Power Company

Facility: D. C. Cook Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2

Location: Bridgman, MI

Dates: June 21, through July 9, 2010

Examiners: R. K. Walton, Senior Operations Engineer
D. Reeser, Operations Engineer
C. Zoia, Operations Engineer

Approved by: Hironori Peterson, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

ER 05000315/2010301(DRS), 05000316/2010301(DRS); 06/21/2010 – 07/09/2010;
Indiana Michigan Power Company, LLC, D. C. Cook Nuclear Power Plant. Initial License
Examination Report.

The announced initial operator licensing examination was conducted by regional Nuclear
Regulatory Commission examiners in accordance with the guidance of NUREG-1021,
“Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors,” Revision 9, Supplement 1.

Examination Summary:

- Fourteen of fourteen applicants passed all sections of their respective examinations.
Six applicants were issued Senior Reactor Operator licenses and eight applicants were
issued Reactor Operator licenses. (Section 40A5.1).

REPORT DETAILS

4. OTHER ACTIVITIES (OA)

4OA5 Other

.1 Initial Licensing Examinations

a. Examination Scope

The D. C. Cook Training Department prepared the examination outline and developed the written examination and operating test. The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) examiners validated the proposed examination during the week of June 1, 2010, at the D. C. Cook Training Building with the assistance of members of the licensee training staff. During the on-site validation week on June 1, 2010, the examiners audited three license applications for accuracy. The NRC examiners conducted the operating portion of the initial license examination during the weeks of June 21 and 28, 2010. Members of the D. C. Cook Training Department staff administered the written examination on July 2, 2010. The NRC examiners used the guidance established in NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 9, Supplement 1, to prepare, validate, revise, administer, and grade the examination.

b. Findings

Written Examination

The NRC examiners determined that the written examination, as originally submitted by the licensee, was within the range of acceptability expected for a proposed examination. All changes made to the submitted examination were made in accordance with NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 9, Supplement 1. During the validation of the written examination several questions were modified or replaced. Changes made to the written examination were documented on Form ES-401-9, "Written Examination Review Worksheet" which is available electronically in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of NRC's document system (ADAMS).

The NRC examiners graded the written examination on July 13, 2010, conducted a review of each missed question to determine the accuracy and validity of the examination questions. On July 9, 2010, the NRC received the licensee's letter concerning the post examination material. The licensee did not submit any post examination comments for consideration by the NRC examiners when grading the written examination or enhancements based on a post examination review with the applicants.

Operating Test

The NRC examiners determined that the operating test, as originally submitted by the licensee, was within the range of acceptability expected for a proposed examination. During the validation of the operating test, several Job Performance Measures (JPMs) and dynamic simulator scenarios were modified. Changes made to the operating test were documented in a document titled, "Operating Test Comments," which is available electronically in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). The NRC examiners completed operating test grading on July 23, 2010.

Examination Results

Six applicants at the Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) level and eight applicants at the Reactor Operator (RO) level were administered written and operating tests. Five of the SRO applicants were previously licensed as ROs at D. C. Cook Nuclear Power Plant. Fourteen applicants passed all portions of their examinations and were issued operating licenses.

.2 Examination Security

a. Scope

The NRC examiners reviewed and observed the licensee's implementation of examination security requirements during the examination validation and administration to assure compliance with 10 CFR 55.49, "Integrity of Examinations and Tests." The examiners used the guidelines provided in NUREG 1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," to determine acceptability of the licensee's examination security activities.

b. Findings

On May 3, 2010, licensee operations training personnel identified that the exam room door hand reader had lost power resulting in the door being unlocked. Since exam material was stored in the exam room, the licensee required that the exam room door be locked at all times. The licensee informed the NRC resident inspector and the chief examiner. The licensee procedures required that exam material be locked up when the exam room was unattended. The examiner observed training staff practices in the exam room and believed that training staff were properly implementing their procedures for locking up exam material.

The licensee stated that all exam material was locked in safes over the weekend of May 1, 2010. As such, the examiners believed that there was no compromise of exam material.

During subsequent investigation, the licensee identified that the power to the door locks was removed due to maintenance activity. Once the maintenance activity was completed, the breaker was not reclosed. Since the hand reader to the exam room was

on a battery backup, the door remained locked until sometime over the weekend of May 1, 2010. At that time, the hand reader lost power, allowing access to the exam room. Since there was no indication of battery backup power to the hand reader, the exact time that the power was lost was unknown.

The licensee documented this condition on AR 2010-4087. The inspectors reviewed the AR, the licensee's investigation, and viewed the corrective actions implemented to the hand reader. This issue is closed.

4OA6 Meetings

Exit Meeting

The chief examiner presented the examination team's preliminary observations and findings on July 1, 2010, to J. Gibbie and other members of the D. C. Cook Operations and Training Department staff. The examiners asked the licensee whether any of the material used to develop or administer the examination should be considered proprietary. No proprietary or sensitive information was identified during the examination or debrief/exit meetings.

ATTACHMENT: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

KEY POINTS OF CONTACT

Licensee

J. Gibbie, Site Vice President
R. Ebright, Engineering Director
J. Ross, Operations Director
S. Lies, Plant Manager
R. Sieber, Training Manager
B. Evans, Operations Training Manager
I. Fleetwood, Initial Licensing Training Supervisor
M. Scarpello, Regulatory Affairs Manager

NRC

K. O'Brien, Deputy Director, Division of Reactor Safety
H. Peterson, Branch Chief, Division of Reactor Safety
R. Walton, Senior Chief Examiner

ITEMS OPENED, CLOSED, AND DISCUSSED

Opened, Closed, and Discussed

None

LIST OF DOCUMENTS REVIEWED

LIST OF ACRONYMS USED

ADAMS	Agency-Wide Document Access and Management System
DRS	Division of Reactor Safety
IR	Inspection Report
JPMs	Job Performance Measures
NRC	U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
PARS	Publicly Available Records
RO	Reactor Operator
SRO	Senior Reactor Operator

SIMULATION FACILITY REPORT

Facility Licensee: D. C. Cook Nuclear Power Plant

Facility Docket No: 50-315; 50-316

Operating Tests Administered: June 21 to July 1, 2010

The following documents observations made by the NRC examination team during the initial operator license examination. These observations do not constitute audit or inspection findings and are not, without further verification and review, indicative of non-compliance with 10 CFR 55.45(b). These observations do not affect NRC certification or approval of the simulation facility other than to provide information which may be used in future evaluations. No licensee action is required in response to these observations.

During the conduct of the simulator portion of the operating tests, the following items were observed:

ITEM	DESCRIPTION
Shutdown Bank B, Rod C7, IRPI	During onsite validation, Shutdown Bank B, Rod C7, Individual Rod Position Indication went blank while the rod was at 228 steps without any rod malfunctions inserted. The condition was corrected by cycling the power supply to the IRPI. DR 2010100
Reactor Trip Breaker	During onsite validation, one of the two reactor trip breakers would 'flicker' between 'closed' and 'open'.
Elevated Radiation Levels on Unit 2 caused unexpected alarms on Unit 1	During Scenario 1, the evaluated crew on Unit 1 received numerous unexpected radiation alarms. This condition was included in the simulated software but was not detected during onsite validation due to a shorter run time than the evaluated scenario. The crew was told that the radiation alarms were from the other unit and were able to continue with the scenario without affecting the examiners ability to evaluate the operator's performance. The condition was resolved during subsequent scenarios by resetting the simulator twice which corrected an abnormal condition on Unit 2 thus preventing core damage and the resulting radiation alarms on both simulated units. AR 2010-6528.

WRITTEN EXAMINATIONS AND ANSWER KEYS (RO/SRO)

RO/SRO Initial Examination ADAMS Accession # ML102220242

L. Weber

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We will gladly discuss any questions you have concerning this examination.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Hironori Peterson, Chief
Operations Branch
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