



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I
475 ALLENDALE ROAD
KING OF PRUSSIA, PA 19406-1415

December 23, 2010

Mr. Sam Belcher
Vice President
Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, LLC
P.O. Box 63
Lycoming, NY 13093-0063

SUBJECT: NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 1 - NRC EXAMINATION
REPORT 05000220/2010301

Dear Mr. Belcher:

On November 16, 2010, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed an examination at Nine Mile Point, Unit 1. The enclosed report documents the examination findings, which were discussed on December 15, 2010, with Mr. R. Brown of your staff.

The examination included the evaluation of six applicants for reactor operator licenses, four applicants for instant senior reactor operator licenses, and one applicant for an upgrade senior reactor operator license. The written and operating examinations were developed using NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 9, Supplement 1. The license examiners determined that all applicants satisfied the requirements of 10 CFR Part 55, and the appropriate licenses were issued on December 15, 2010.

No findings were identified during this examination.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Samuel L. Hansell, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Samuel L. Hansell, Jr., Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Enclosure: NRC Examination Report 05000220/2010301

Docket No.: 50-220
License No.: DPR-63

cc w/encl: Distribution via ListServ

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/RA/

Samuel L. Hansell, Jr., Chief
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SUNSI Review Complete: tf (Reviewer's Initials)

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EXAMINATION REPORT
U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I

Docket: 50-220

License: DPR-63

Report: 05000220/2010301

Licensee: Constellation Energy Group, LLC

Facility: Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit 1

Location: Oswego, NY

Dates: November 8 - 15, 2010 (Operating Test Administration)
November 16, 2010 (Written Examination Administration)
November 22, 2010 (Licensee Submitted Post Exam Package)
November 15 - 30, 2010 (NRC Examination Grading)
December 15, 2010 (Licenses Issued)

Examiners: T. Fish, Chief Examiner
B. Fuller, Examiner
B. Litkett, Examiner
R. Devercelly, Examiner

Approved By: Samuel L. Hansell, Jr., Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

ER 05000220/2010301; November 8 - 16, 2010; Nine Mile Point, Unit 1; Initial Operator Licensing Examination Report.

NRC examiners evaluated the competency of six applicants for reactor operator licenses, four applicants for instant senior reactor operator licenses, and one applicant for an upgrade senior reactor operator license. The facility licensee developed the examinations using NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 9, Supplement 1. The written examination was administered by the facility on November 16, 2010. Four NRC examiners administered the operating tests from November 8 - 15, 2010. The license examiners determined that all applicants satisfied the requirements of 10 CFR Part 55, and the appropriate licenses have been issued.

A. NRC-Identified and Self-Revealing Findings

None

B. Licensee-Identified Violations

None

REPORT DETAILS

4. OTHER ACTIVITIES (OA)

4OA5 Other Activities (Initial Operator License Examination)

.1 License Applications

a. Scope

The chief examiner reviewed all 11 license applications submitted by the licensee to ensure the applications reflected that each applicant satisfied relevant eligibility requirements. The applications were submitted on NRC Form 398, "Personal Qualification Statement," and NRC Form 396, "Certification of Medical Examination by Facility Licensee." The chief examiner also audited two license applications in detail to confirm that they accurately reflected the applicants' qualifications. This audit focused on the applicants' experience, on-the-job training, and eligibility to sit for the instant senior reactor operator license exams.

b. Findings

No findings were identified.

.2 Operator Knowledge and Performance

a. Examination Scope

On November 16, 2010, the licensee proctored the administration of the written examinations to all applicants. The licensee staff graded the written examinations, analyzed the results, and presented their analysis to the NRC on November 22, 2010.

The NRC examination team administered the various portions of the operating examination to all applicants from November 8 - 15, 2010. The applicants for reactor operator licenses participated in two or three dynamic simulator scenarios, in a control room and facilities walkthrough test consisting of 11 system tasks, and an administrative test consisting of four administrative tasks. The applicants for instant senior reactor operator licenses participated in two or three dynamic simulator scenarios, a control room and facilities walkthrough test consisting of ten system tasks, and an administrative test consisting of five administrative tasks. The applicant for an upgrade senior reactor operator license participated in two dynamic scenarios, a control room and facilities walkthrough test consisting of five system tasks, and an administrative test consisting of five administrative tasks.

Enclosure

b. Findings

All applicants passed all parts of the examinations. For the written examinations, the reactor operator applicants' average score was 92.2 percent, and ranged from 88.0 to 97.3 percent. The senior reactor operator applicants' overall average score was 90.4 percent and ranged from 81.0 to 98.0 percent. The examination questions may be accessed in the ADAMS system under the accession number noted in Attachment 1.

Chapter ES-403 and Form ES-403-1 of NUREG 1021 require the facility licensee to analyze the validity of any written examination questions that were missed by half or more of the applicants. Two questions met this criterion. The facility licensee conducted the performance analysis and submitted it to the chief examiner.

.3 Initial Licensing Examination Development

a. Examination Scope

The facility licensee developed the examinations in accordance with the Examination Standards. All licensee facility training and operations staff involved in examination preparation and validation were on a security agreement. The facility licensee submitted the written and operating examination outlines on August 10, 2010. The chief examiner reviewed the outlines against the requirements of the Standards, and provided comments to the licensee. The facility licensee submitted the draft examination package on September 20, 2010. The chief examiner reviewed the draft examination against the requirements of the Standards, and provided comments to the licensee on the examination on October 6, 2010. The examinations were within the range of acceptability for a proposed examination. The NRC conducted an onsite validation of the operating examinations and provided associated comments during the week of October 11, 2010. The facility licensee satisfactorily completed comment resolution on October 27, 2010.

b. Findings

No findings were identified.

.4 Simulation Facility Performance

a. Examination Scope

The examiners observed simulator performance with regard to plant fidelity during the examination validation and administration.

b. Findings

No findings were identified.

Enclosure

5 Examination Security

a. Examination Scope

The examiners reviewed examination security for examination development and during both the onsite preparation week and examination administration week for compliance with the Examination Standards. Plans for simulator security and applicant control were reviewed and discussed with licensee personnel.

b. Findings

No findings were identified.

4OA6 Meetings, Including Exit

Examination results were given to Mr. R. Brown of the facility licensee's staff on December 15, 2010.

The licensee did not identify any information or materials used during the examination as proprietary.

ATTACHMENT 1: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Enclosure

A-1

ATTACHMENT 1

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

KEY POINTS OF CONTACT

Licensee Personnel

T. Hooper, Facility Exam Developer
R. Brown, Operations Training Manager

ITEMS OPENED, CLOSED, AND DISCUSSED

None

ADAMS DOCUMENTS REFERENCED

Accession No. ML103500258
Accession No. ML103500290

FINAL-Written Exam
FINAL-Operating Exam

Attachment