



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
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ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4125

September 21, 2011

John T. Conway
Senior Vice President-Energy &
Supply and Chief Nuclear Officer
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Diablo Canyon Nuclear Plant
77 Beale Street, Mail Code B32
San Francisco, CA 94105

SUBJECT: DIABLO CANYON, UNITS 1 AND 2 - NOTIFICATION OF NRC INITIAL RETAKE
OPERATOR LICENSING EXAMINATION 05000275/2011302;
05000323/2011302

Dear Mr. Conway,

In a telephone conversation on September 20, 2011, between Messrs. R. Fortier, Exam Support Leader, and S. Garchow, Chief Examiner, arrangements were made for the administration of a simulator scenario licensing retake examination at Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant during the week of November 14, 2011.

As agreed during the telephone conversation, your staff will prepare the examination 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 examination is administered.

To meet the above schedule, it will be necessary for your staff to furnish the draft simulator scenario examination, including the scenario outlines, by October 24, 2011. Pursuant to 10 CFR 55.40(b)(3), an authorized representative of the facility licensee shall approve the outlines and examination 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 examination to be rescheduled. In addition, your support for on-site validation of the examination is required during the week of November 14, 2011.

In order to conduct the requested examination, 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 simulator scenarios until the examination result is final.

Appendix E to NUREG-1021 contains a number of NRC policies and guidelines that will be in effect while the examination is being administered.

To permit timely NRC review and evaluation, your staff should submit the preliminary senior operator license application (Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval number 3150-0090), medical certification (OMB approval number 3150-0024), and waiver request (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. The signed application certifying that all remedial 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 February 28, 2013. 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 Agency-wide 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. Fortier 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. Garchow at 817-276-4426 or myself at 817-860-8159.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Mark S. Haire, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

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