



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
REGION II
245 PEACHTREE CENTER AVENUE NE, SUITE 1200
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-1257

July 11, 2012

Mr. T. Preston Gillespie, Jr.
Site Vice President
Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC
Oconee Nuclear Station
7800 Rochester Highway
Seneca, SC 29672

**SUBJECT: OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION - NRC EXAMINATION REPORT
05000269/2012301, 05000270/2012301 AND 05000287/2012301**

Dear Mr. Gillespie, Jr.:

During the period June 11, 2012, through June 14, 2012, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) administered operating tests to employees of your company who had applied for licenses to operate the Oconee Nuclear Station. 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 June 20, 2012.

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.

The initial examination submittal was within the range of acceptability expected for a proposed examination. All examination changes agreed upon between the NRC and your staff were made according to NUREG-1021, Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors, Revision 9, Supplement 1.

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).

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact me at (404) 997-4550.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Malcolm T. Widmann, Chief
Operations Branch 1
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos.: 50-269, 50-270, 50-287
License Nos.: DPR-38, DPR-47, DPR-55

Enclosures:

1. Summary of Findings & Report Details
2. Simulator Fidelity Report

cc w/encls.: (See page 3)

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact me at (404) 997-4550.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Malcolm T. Widmann, Chief
Operations Branch 1
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos.: 50-269, 50-270, 50-287
License Nos.: DPR-38, DPR-47, DPR-55

Enclosures

- 1. Summary of Findings & Report Details
- 2. Simulator Fidelity Report

cc w/encls.: (See page 3)

PUBLICLY AVAILABLE
 NON-PUBLICLY AVAILABLE
 SENSITIVE
 NON-SENSITIVE
 ADAMS: Yes
 ACCESSION NUMBER: _____
 SUNSI REVIEW COMPLETE
 FORM 665 ATTACHED

OFFICE	RII:DRS	RII:DRS	RII:DRS	RII:DRP	RII:DRS		
SIGNATURE	RA	RA	RA	RA	RA		
NAME	GLASKA	MBATES	PCAPEHART	JBARTLEY	WIDMANN		
DATE	7/10/2012	7/11/2012	7/11/2012	7/11/2012	7/11/2012		
E-MAIL COPY?	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO

cc w/encls:
Division of Radiological Health
TN Dept. of Environment & Conservation
401 Church Street
Nashville, TN 37243-1532

Charles J. Thomas
Fleet Licensing Manager
Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC
Electronic Mail Distribution

David A. Baxter
Vice President, Nuclear Engineering
General Office
Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC
Electronic Mail Distribution

David A. Cummings
Associate General Counsel
Duke Energy Corporation
Electronic Mail Distribution

Judy E. Smith
Licensing Administrator
Oconee Nuclear Station
Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC
Electronic Mail Distribution

Kent Alter
Regulatory Compliance Manager
Oconee Nuclear Station
Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC
Electronic Mail Distribution

Lara S. Nichols
Vice President-Legal
Duke Energy Corporation
Electronic Mail Distribution

Luellen B. Jones
Fleet Licensing Engineer
Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC
Electronic Mail Distribution

M. Christopher Nolan
Fleet Safety Assurance Manager
Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC
Electronic Mail Distribution

Sandra Threatt, Manager
Nuclear Response and Emergency
Environmental Surveillance
Bureau of Land and Waste Management
Department of Health and Environmental
Control
Electronic Mail Distribution

Scott L. Batson
Station Manager
Oconee Nuclear Station
Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC
Electronic Mail Distribution

Richardson, Alicia
Licensing Administrative Assistant
Duke Energy Corporation
Electronic Mail Distribution

Senior Resident Inspector
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Oconee Nuclear Station
7812B Rochester Hwy
Seneca, SC 29672

Terry L. Patterson
Safety Assurance Manager
Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC
Electronic Mail Distribution

Charles Brinkman
Director
Washington Operations
Westinghouse Electric Company, LLC
Electronic Mail Distribution

Tom D. Ray
Engineering Manager
Oconee Nuclear Station
Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC
Electronic Mail Distribution

County Supervisor of Oconee County
415 S. Pine Street
Walhalla, SC 29691-2145

(cc w/encls cont'd – See page 4)

(cc w/encls cont'd)

W. Lee Cox, III

Section Chief

Radiation Protection Section

N.C. Department of Environmental

Commerce & Natural Resources

Electronic Mail Distribution

Duke Energy Corporation

ATTN: Mr. Paul Stovall

Training Manager

Oconee Nuclear Station

7800 Rochester Highway

Seneca, SC 29672-0752

Letter to T. Preston Gillespie, Jr. from Malcolm T. Widmann dated July 11, 2012.

SUBJECT: OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION - NRC EXAMINATION REPORT
05000269/2012301, 05000270/2012301 AND 05000287/2012301

Distribution w/encls:

RIDSNRRDIRS

PUBLIC

RidsNrrPMOconee Resource

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION II

Docket Nos.: 05000269, 05000270, 05000287

License Nos.: DPR-38, DPR-47, DPR-55

Report No.: 05000269/2012301, 05000270/2012301 and 05000287/2012301

Licensee: Duke Energy Carolinas LLC.

Facility: Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2, and 3

Location: Seneca, SC

Dates: Operating Tests – June 11, through June 14, 2012
Written Examination – June 20, 2012

Examiners: G. Laska, Chief, Senior Operations Examiner
M. Bates, Senior Operation Engineer
P. Capehart, Senior Operations Engineer

Approved by: Malcolm T. Widmann, Chief
Operations Branch 1
Division of Reactor Safety

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

ER 05000269/2012301; 05000270/2012301; 05000287/2012301; operating test 06/11/2012 – 06/14/2012 & written exam 06/20/2012; Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2, and 3 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 Oconee Nuclear Station staff developed both the operating tests and the written examination.

The NRC administered the operating tests during the period of June 11, 2012, through June 14, 2012. Members of the Oconee Nuclear Station training staff administered the written examination on June 20, 2012. Four Reactor Operator (RO) and five Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) applicants passed both the written examination and operating test. Nine applicants were issued licenses commensurate with the level of examination administered.

There were no post-examination comments.

No findings were identified.

Report Details

4. OTHER ACTIVITIES

40A5 Operator Licensing Initial Examinations

a. Inspection Scope

Members of the Oconee Nuclear Station 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 examiners reviewed the licensee's examination security measures while preparing and administering the examinations to ensure examination security and integrity complied with 10 CFR 55.49, "Integrity of Examinations and Tests." One noncompliance of security requirements occurred on April 12, 2012, when a member of licensee management, not on the security agreement, entered the simulator while exam validation was taking place. The individual was immediately added to the security agreement. The licensee documented this event in PIP O-12-03987.

The NRC examiners evaluated four Reactor Operator (RO), and five Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) applicants using the guidelines contained in NUREG-1021. The examiners administered the operating tests during the period of June 11, 2012, through June 14, 2012. Members of the Oconee Nuclear Station training staff administered the written examination on June 20, 2012. Evaluations of applicants and reviews of associated documentation were performed to determine if the applicants, who applied for licenses to operate the Oconee Nuclear Station, met the requirements specified in 10 CFR Part 55, "Operators' Licenses."

b. Findings

No findings were identified. The NRC determined, using NUREG-1021, that the licensee's initial examination submittal was within the range of acceptability expected for a proposed examination

Four RO and five SRO applicants passed both the operating test and written examination. Nine licenses were issued.

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

There were no post-examination comments. A copy of the final written examination and answer key may be accessed not earlier than June 23, 2014, in the ADAMS system (ADAMS Accession Number ML12185A027 and ML12185A032).

4OA6 MeetingsExit Meeting Summary

On June 14, 2012, the NRC examination team discussed generic issues associated with the operating test with Mr. S. Batson, Station Manager, and members of his staff. The examiners asked the licensee if any of the examination material was proprietary. No proprietary information was identified.

PARTIAL LIST OF PERSONS CONTACTED

Licensee personnel

F. Baldwin, Operations Shift Manager
S. Batson, Station Manager
E. Burchfield, Operations Superintendent
J. Collins, Shift Operations Manager
L. Gentry, ILT Lead
S. Lark, ILT Supervisor
L. Nowell, NRC Exam Development Supervisor
R. Robinson, Operations Shift Manager
J. Smith, Licensing
J. Steely, Operations Training Manager
P. Stovall, Training Manager
G. Washburn, Training Instructor
K. Welchel, Simulator Supervisor
C. Witherspoon, Training Instructor

NRC personnel

A. Sabisch, Senior Resident Inspector

SIMULATOR FIDELITY REPORT

Facility Licensee: Oconee Nuclear Station

Facility Docket No.: 05000269/2012301, 05000270/2012301 AND 05000287/2012301

Operating Test Administered: June 11, 2012, through June 14, 2012

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>
Condensate Booster Pumps (CPBs) failed to start in the start or run position.	During JPM validation the CBPs failed to start in either the start or run with the LO pressure condition satisfied. Snag No. 2156 was written to address the issue.
1SA-9/C-1 (CC COMP COOLING FLOW LOW) did not alarm on simulator when 1CC-1/HP-1 and 1CC-21/HP-2 were closed.	A note in AP/2 (Excessive RCS Leakage) states annunciator 1SA-9/C-1 (CC COMP COOLING FLOW LOW) will alarm when 1CC-1/HP-1 and 1CC-21/HP-2 are closed. During scenario administration these valves were closed, and the alarm did not annunciate. Request number ONS-2012-003648 was written to address the issue.