



UNITED STATES  
**NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
REGION IV  
1600 EAST LAMAR BLVD  
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4511

October 9, 2012

Mr. Mark E. Reddemann  
Chief Executive Officer  
Columbia Generating Station  
Energy Northwest  
P. O. Box 968, Mail Drop 1023  
Richland, WA 99352-0968

**SUBJECT: COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION – NOTIFICATION OF INSPECTION  
(NRC INSPECTION REPORT 05000397/2013002) AND REQUEST FOR  
INFORMATION**

Dear Mr. Reddemann:

From November 26 - 30, 2012, inspectors from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) Region IV office will perform the baseline biennial requalification program inspection at Columbia Generating Station, using NRC Inspection Procedure 71111.11B, "Licensed Operator Requalification Program." Experience has shown that this inspection is a resource intensive inspection both for the NRC inspectors and your staff. In order to minimize the impact to your onsite resources and to ensure a productive inspection, we have enclosed a request for documents needed for this inspection. These documents have been divided into three groups. The first group (Section A of the enclosure) identifies information to be provided prior to the inspection to ensure that the inspectors are adequately prepared. The second group (Section B of the enclosure) identifies the information the inspectors will need upon arrival at the site. The third group (Section C of this enclosure) identifies the items which are necessary to close out the inspection and are usually sent a few weeks after the team has left the site. It is important that all of these documents are up-to-date and complete in order to minimize the number of additional documents requested during the preparation and/or the onsite portions of the inspection.

We have discussed the schedule for these inspection activities with your staff and understand that our regulatory contact for this inspection will be Mr. Richard Garcia of your licensing organization. Our inspection dates are subject to change based on your updated schedule of examination activities. If there are any questions about this inspection or the material requested, please contact the lead inspector Mr. Sean Hedger at (817) 200-1556 (Sean.Hedger@nrc.gov) or Mr. Gabriel Apger at (817) 200-1508 (Gabriel.Apger@nrc.gov).

This letter does not contain new or amended information collection requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). Existing information collection requirements were approved by the Office of Management and Budget, control number 3150-0018. The NRC may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a request for information or an information collection requirement unless the requesting document displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget control number.

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,

**/RA/**

Vincent G. Gaddy, Chief  
Operations Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket: 50-397  
License: NPF-21

Enclosure:  
Biennial Requalification Program Inspection Document Request

Electronic distribution by RIV:  
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ADAMS: <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SUNSI Review Complete	Reviewer Initials: SDH
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Publicly Available	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Sensitive
		<input type="checkbox"/> Non-publicly Available	<input type="checkbox"/> Sensitive
OE: OB	C: OB		
SHedger	VGaddy		
/RA/	/RA/		
10/9/2012	10/9/2012		

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## BIENNIAL REQUALIFICATION PROGRAM INSPECTION DOCUMENT REQUEST

From: Mr. Sean Hedger  
Operations Engineer, NRC RIV  
817-200-1556

To: Mr. Randy Guthrie  
Continuing Training Supervisor, Columbia Generating Station  
509-377-8269

Subject: Information Request to Support November 26-30, 2012, Licensed Operator  
Requalification Program Inspection (IP 71111.11B)

**A. The following information is requested in order to support inspection preparation activities. These items are listed by section as they appear in the inspection module (i.e., 2.02, 2.04, etc.). Requested materials should be sent either electronically or hardcopy in order to arrive at the Region IV office no later than November 13, 2012.**

- Electronically: Via IMS Certrec or email (to [Sean.Hedger@nrc.gov](mailto:Sean.Hedger@nrc.gov) and [Gabriel.Apger@nrc.gov](mailto:Gabriel.Apger@nrc.gov))
- Hardcopy to: US Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region IV  
1600 E. Lamar Blvd  
Arlington, TX 76011  
ATTN: Sean D. Hedger

### **General Requests:**

- List of licensed operators (SRO & RO) by crew (operating & staff)
- Training and Operations Department organization charts (with qualified LOR evaluators identified)
- Procedures that identify process for revising and maintaining LO continuing training program up-to-date
- List of outstanding LOR program changes
- List of plant events and industry operating experience incorporated into LOR program since last BRQ
- Audits and/or self-assessment reports addressing the licensed operator requalification training program
- Last two years of simulator review committee (or equivalent) meeting minutes
- Last two years of CRC (or equivalent) meeting minutes

### 02.03: Biennial Requalification Written Examination Quality

- The current and approved biennial written examination schedule
- The current requalification cycle written examination results for both SRO & RO that have already been administered up to the week prior to the inspection team arrival onsite.
- **All** written examinations that have been approved for administration up to and including the week before the inspection team is onsite. This will need to have

adequate password protection if e-mailed or double envelope protection if mailed via regular mail per NUREG-1021.

- The current requalification cycle examination methodology (sample plan)

02.04: Annual Requalification Operating Test Quality

- The schedule for the operating tests (JPMs & scenarios) to be given the week of November 26, 2012 (week team is onsite)
- The operating tests (JPMs & scenarios) (password protected and provide separately via telephone at later date) to be given the week of November 26, 2012 (week team is onsite)
- Current requalification cycle operating tests (SRO & RO) and results up to the week prior to the inspection team arrival onsite.
- All of the previous year's NRC required annual operating tests.
- Current requalification cycle operating test methodology (sample plan)
- All portions of the UFSAR that identify operator response times for time critical operator actions

02.05: Licensee Admin of Requalification Exams

- All procedures used to administer the annual operating test
- All procedures used to assess operator performance
- All procedures that describe conduct of simulator training
- All Procedures used to test, operate, and maintain the simulator

02.06: Requalification Examination Security

- Submit any tracking tools that you use as a means to prevent excessive overlap on the written examinations and also meet the intent of sampling all required topics on a periodic basis.
- Submit any tracking tools that you use as a means to prevent excessive overlap on the operating tests and also meet the intent of sampling all required malfunctions (including major events, instrument/component malfunctions, TS calls, etc.) on a periodic basis.
- All procedures that describe examination security, including procedures used to develop the examinations that include guidelines on overlap between examinations in current exam cycle tests and prior year examinations
- List of all condition reports since the last biennial requalification inspection related to examination security and overlap

02.07: Licensee Remedial Training Program

- List of remedial training conducted or planned since last requalification exams (includes training provided to operators to enable passing requalification exams and training provided to correct generic or individual weaknesses observed during previous requalification exam cycle)
- Remediation plans (lesson plans, reference materials, and attendance documentation)

02.08: Conformance with Operator License Conditions

- All procedures and program documentation for maintaining active operator licenses, tracking training attendance, and ensuring medical fitness of licensed operators
- All procedures and associated documentation that supports reactivation of any SRO/RO license (operating or staff crew) since the last biennial inspection

02.09: Simulator Performance

- For the following cases, send the most recent transient test packages, which may be electronic or in paper single test packages and shall be complete with test procedures for each test, the acceptance criteria, and results. For each transient test, the reference chart should be included or an equivalent subject matter expert review versus the simulator results with a write-up for any differences beyond the ANSI 3.5 standard requirements. Based on the input that the licensee implements simulator testing standards per ANSI 3.5-2009, provide this information for the following Transient and Steady State tests:
  - Transient test 2, Simultaneous trip of all feedwater pumps
  - Transient test 6, Main turbine trip from maximum power level which does not result in immediate reactor scram
  - Transient test 9, Maximum unisolable main steam line rupture
  - Steady State tests for medium power test
- All Simulator Management and Configuration Procedures if not already provided for section 02.05 above.
- Simulator Discrepancy Report **summary** list for all open DR's. For closed DR's, **summary** list for those items closed between November 2010 and November 2012.
- Malfunction Test Package
- Primary parameters tested in order to verify core physics parameters (such as MTC, IRW). The applicable reference graphs from the Plant physics data book (electronic or other means as available) should also be included as well as the test procedures used and the acceptance criteria with results.

02.10: Problem Identification and Resolution

- A summary report of all condition reports related to operator actions/errors in the control room
- Any revised requalification training that was based on licensed operator performance issues
- Copies of Action Requests 236879, 237779, 237425, 238032, 239466, 239461, 239405, 239462, 245507, 248171, 248226, 251613, and 266371
- Copies of condition reports related to Licensee Event Reports (LERs) 2011-001-00 and 2012-002-00

**B. The following information is requested in order to support the onsite inspection activities. Requested materials should be available to the inspection team, either electronically or hardcopy, upon site arrival on November 26, 2012.**

02.02: Exam Results / 02.03 and 02.04: Written Exam and Op Test Quality

- All Operating tests (JPMs & scenarios) to be given in all subsequent weeks after onsite week
- All results up to the day the team leaves the site.

02.08: Conformance with Operator License Conditions

- Access to licensed operators' records (operating and staff crews)
- Access to licensed operators' training attendance records
- Access to licensed operators' medical records

02.09: Simulator Performance

- Simulator discrepancies (DR's) from November 2010 to November 2012. This should include all open DR's and DR's that have been closed, including the documentation/justification for closure.
- Acceptance test documentation, including hardware and software model revisions at the time of acceptance (as available).
- Documentation that validates current models, including the thermal-hydraulics and neutronics models, to the actual plant.
- All current model deficiencies, including FSAR vs. Design differences in the simulator (any documentation on this)
- Summary list of modifications from November 2010 to November 2012.
- Plant Modifications (both hardware and software) completed on the Simulator by due date from November 2010 to November 2012.
- Simulator Differences Lesson plan used in training (current to November 26, 2012).
- The complete book of all Simulator annual performance test packages (usually in a single book, but may be electronic or in single test packages), complete with all transient tests, steady state tests, and malfunction tests. This should also include the test procedures for each test, the acceptance criteria, and results. For each transient test, the reference chart should be included or an equivalent subject matter expert review versus the simulator results with a write-up for any differences beyond the ANSI standard requirements.
- All test packages used to verify core physics parameters (such as MTC, IRW). The applicable reference graphs from the Plant physics data book (electronic or other means as available) should also be included as well as the test procedures used and the acceptance criteria with results.
- All Simulator test, configuration management, and related documents available in the room for inspectors to review. This includes training needs analysis packages, simulator review committee meeting minutes, etc.
- Current copy of ANSI 3.5 standard you are committed to for Simulator testing.

02.10: Problem Identification and Resolution

- All condition reports related to operator actions/errors in the control room

- C. Columbia Generating Station is required to send the final results summary and any remaining exams and operating tests that have not been reviewed to the regional office lead inspector for this inspection for final review and comparison against the Significance Determination Tools in order to communicate the exit results for the inspection.**