



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

October 10, 2012

Christopher J. Schwarz, Site Vice President
Arkansas Nuclear One
Entergy Operations, Inc.
1448 SR 333
Russellville, AR 72802-0967

SUBJECT: ARKANSAS NUCLEAR ONE, UNIT 2 - NRC EXAMINATION REPORT
05000368/2012301

Dear Mr. Schwarz:

On August 31, 2012, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed an initial operator license examination at Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 2. The enclosed report documents the examination results and licensing decisions. The preliminary examination results were discussed on August 31, 2012, with Mr. R. Martin and other members of your staff. A telephonic exit meeting was conducted on September 26, 2012, with Mr. C. Simpson, who was provided the NRC licensing decisions.

The examination included the evaluation of seven applicants for reactor operator licenses, two applicants for instant senior reactor operator licenses and two applicants for upgrade senior reactor operator licenses. The license examiners determined that all of the applicants satisfied the requirements of 10 CFR Part 55, and the appropriate licenses have been issued. There were no post-examination comments submitted by your staff. The enclosure to this letter contains the details of this report.

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,

/RA/

Vincent Gaddy, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

C. Schwarz

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Docket: 50-368
License: NPF-6

Enclosure:
NRC Examination Report 05000368/2012301

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SUNSI Review Completed: CCO ADAMS: Yes No Initials: CCO
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U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV

Docket: 50-368
License: NPF-6
Report: 05000368/2012301
Licensee: Entergy Operations, Inc.
Facility: Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 2
Location: Junction of Hwy. 64W and Hwy. 333 South
Russellville, Arkansas
Dates: August 24-September 26, 2012
Inspectors: C. Osterholtz, Senior Operations Engineer
T. Buchanan, Operations Engineer
J. Drake, Senior Reactor Inspector
D. Strickland, Operations Engineer
Approved By: V. Gaddy, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

ER05000368/2012301; August 24-September 26, 2012; Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 2; Initial Operator Licensing Examination Report.

NRC examiners evaluated the competency of seven applicants for reactor operator licenses, two applicants for instant senior reactor operator licenses and two applicants for upgrade senior reactor operator licenses at Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 2.

The 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 licensee on August 24, 2012. NRC examiners administered the operating tests on week of August 27, 2012.

The examiners determined that all of the applicants satisfied the requirements of 10 CFR Part 55, and the appropriate licenses have been issued.

A. NRC-Identified and Self-Revealing Findings

No findings of significance were identified.

B. Licensee-Identified Violations

None.

REPORT DETAILS

4. OTHER ACTIVITIES (OA)

4OA5 Other Activities (Initial Operator License Examination)

.1 License Applications

a. Scope

NRC examiners reviewed all license applications submitted to ensure each applicant satisfied relevant license eligibility requirements. The examiners also audited two of the license applications in detail to confirm that they accurately reflected the subject applicant's qualifications. This audit focused on the applicant's experience and on-the-job training, including control manipulations that provided significant reactivity changes.

b. Findings

No findings were identified.

.2 Examination Development

a. Scope

NRC examiners reviewed integrated examination outlines and draft examinations submitted by the licensee against the requirements of NUREG-1021. The NRC examination team conducted an onsite validation of the operating tests.

b. Findings

No findings were identified. NRC examiners provided outline, draft examination and post-validation comments to the licensee. The licensee satisfactorily completed comment resolution prior to examination administration.

NRC examiners determined that the written examinations and operating tests initially submitted by the licensee were within the range of acceptability expected for a proposed examination.

During the in-plant portion of validation, the examiners noted that the motor generator set room had been designated as a radiologically controlled area for an extended period of time. The licensee indicated that they would evaluate the need for a re-posting effort and placed the issue into their corrective action program as condition report ANO-2-2012-1668.

.3 Operator Knowledge and Performance

a. Scope

On August 24, 2012, the licensee proctored the administration of the written examinations to all eleven applicants. The licensee staff graded the written examinations, analyzed the results, and presented their analysis to the NRC on September 25, 2012.

The NRC examination team administered the various portions of the operating tests to all eleven applicants on the week of August 27, 2012.

b. Findings

No findings were identified.

All of the applicants passed the written examination and all parts of the operating test. The final written examinations and post-examination analysis may be accessed in the ADAMS system under the accession numbers noted in the attachment. There were no post-examination comments as indicated in the licensee submittal.

The examination team noted the following generic weaknesses:

- The applicants had difficulty determining which control element assemblies did not insert following a reactor trip. The deficiency appeared to be in the ability to operate the control element assembly computer. The licensee entered this deficiency in their corrective action program as training action ANO-2012-633.
- A majority of senior reactor operator applicants had difficulty finding errors in maintenance paperwork during performance of the administrative job performance measures. This was also entered in the licensee's corrective action program as training action ANO-2012-633.
- A majority of reactor operator applicants had difficulty calculating the expected dose to personnel for a re-entry into a radiologically controlled area during an emergency. This was also entered in the licensee's corrective action program as training action ANO-2012-633.
- It appeared that some instant senior reactor operator applicants were not being provided thorough training on the control boards in the balance of plant operator position. This was also entered in the licensee's corrective action program as training action ANO-2012-633 for evaluation.

.4 Simulation Facility Performance

a. Scope

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

b. Findings

No findings were identified.

.5 Examination Security

a. Scope

The NRC examiners reviewed examination security during both the onsite preparation week and examination administration week for compliance with 10 CFR 55.49 and NUREG-1021. Plans for simulator security and applicant control were reviewed and discussed with licensee personnel.

b. Findings

No findings were identified.

40A6 Meetings, Including Exit

The chief examiner presented the preliminary examination results to R. Martin and other members of the staff on August 31, 2012. A telephonic exit was conducted on September 26, 2012, between Clyde Osterholtz, Chief Examiner, and C. Simpson, Training Superintendent.

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

ATTACHMENT: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

KEY POINTS OF CONTACT

Licensee Personnel

M. Foster, Training Specialist
D. Lacy, Training Specialist
R. Martin, Operations Training Manager
C. Simpson, Training Superintendent

NRC Personnel

F. Sanchez, Senior Resident Inspector

ADAMS DOCUMENTS REFERENCED

Accession No. ML 12269A507 - FINAL WRITTEN EXAMS (Will be released to the public on August 24, 2014)

Accession No. ML 12269A510 - FINAL OPERATING EXAMS

Accession No. ML 12269A511 - POST EXAM ANALYSIS (Will be released to the public on August 24, 2014)

Facility Licensee: Arkansas Nuclear One
Unit 2Facility Docket No.: 50-368Operating Test Administered on: Week of
August 27,
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 IP 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 tests, examiners observed the following items:

Item	Description
Back panel door for nuclear instrument channel A	The control room annunciator intermittently failed to come in when the back panel door was opened. This was entered into the licensee's corrective action program as condition report ANO-2-2012-1666.

<POSTEXAMWRITEUP>