

**Statement of Professional Qualifications
Phillip G. Capehart, Senior Operations Engineer
Region II, Division of Reactor Safety
Operations Branch 1
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission**

Mr. Capehart is a Senior Operations Engineer with over thirty years of experience in nuclear power. His expertise includes leading Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) examination teams in the development, review, administration, and grading of initial licensed operator examinations at Westinghouse, Babcock and Wilcox (B&W), General Electric (GE), and Combustion Engineering (CE) reactor designs. His experience in the private industry has included twenty two years of work at three commercial nuclear power plants: two Boiling Water Reactors (BWR) and one Pressurized Water Reactor (PWR). As part of the qualification process, he went through extensive training classes for each site to qualify as a Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) classroom and simulator instructor. As an SRO instructor, Mr. Capehart performed duties as lead evaluator for annual simulator evaluations. For several years prior to joining the NRC, he worked to develop written and simulator examinations in accordance with NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors", for a commercial utility to be approved and administered by the NRC. Mr. Capehart participated in the production, oversight, and delivery of those examinations.

Over the past six years as a NRC employee he has developed, reviewed and administered dozens of exams using the guidance contained in the examiner's guide, NUREG-1021. Mr. Capehart has also participated in development and revision of the NUREG-1021 as both a utility participant with the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) and subsequently with the NRC.

EDUCATION

B.S. Applied Science & Technology, Thomas Edison State College, Trenton, NJ 1988
Major: Radiation Protection

EXPERIENCE

From 2007-present, at the NRC, Mr. Capehart has been a principal staff member in charge of development and preparation of examinations in accordance with guides, standards, and regulations associated with the NRC operating licensing program. As chief examiner, he coordinates regional NRC staff examiners and facility personnel in the review and evaluation of facility examination products. He administers written and practical examinations to applicants for operator and SRO licenses, tests the applicants' knowledge in areas such as: reactor technology and theory, facility design, operating characteristics, procedures, license conditions, instrumentation and control of reactor operations and emergency plans. He also tests their ability to safely operate the reactor plant and associated systems. For SROs, he tests their ability to direct licensed activities. As chief examiner, he reviews results of examinations, including audit exams given by plant examiners, and recommends final action on licensing applications.

From 1991 to 2006, at Tennessee Valley Authority, Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, a Boiling Water Reactor (BWR) and at Palo Verde Nuclear Plant, a Pressurized Water Reactor (PWR), Mr. Capehart was an SRO instructor and exam author. In his capacity as exam author at Palo Verde Nuclear Plant, Mr. Capehart developed three NRC licensed operator initial exams and two NRC limited senior reactor operator exams. During this period, he communicated and worked with the NRC on interpretation of issues associated with writing exams and the overall exam process. He assisted in the development of presentations and participated with the NRC on NEI focus group discussions concerning exam philosophy, techniques, and requirements for a successful exam. He communicated via verbal and written formal correspondence with the NRC in conjunction with NEI to promote changes to NUREG-1021 standards for operator exams. He corresponded with other sites through the Westrain Operations Group (WOG) and in coordination with the NRC to propose changes to the Knowledge and Ability (K & A) Catalog (NUREG-1122). This manual provides the knowledge and ability statements in which the exam criteria is derived from for the reactor and SRO operator licensing written exam. Mr. Capehart lead in the development, maintenance and conduct of training and qualification activities to ensure operators and Shift Technical Advisor (STA) qualifications meet regulatory and accreditation requirements and management expectations to support the operation of the site. He also assisted in implementation and instruction of operator, STA, simulator training, and procedure training to support nuclear plant operation. During plant outages, Mr. Capehart supported plant activities as a non-licensed Auxiliary Operator, Limited SRO instructor and Refuel Machine Operator.

From 1985 to 1991, at General Public Utilities Nuclear, Oyster Creek Nuclear Plant (BWR), Mr. Capehart initially accepted a position with the training group as a Chemistry and Radiation Protection Instructor and subsequently qualified in those positions. As part of his qualification, he also initially qualified as Respirator Supervisor and Radiological Controls Supervisor and provided outage support in those positions. In 1987, Mr. Capehart accepted a transfer to the Operations Training Section, completed a 14 month hot license certification class, passed the NRC BWR generic fundamentals exam (GFE) and certified as a SRO Instructor.

From 1979 to 1985, Mr. Capehart served with the U.S. Navy on two fast attack submarines with responsibilities that included leading Engineering Laboratory Technologist (ELT) and Engine Room Supervisor (ERS) duties underway and ELT Training Supervisor in port.