



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

September 23, 2013

Mr. William R. Gideon  
Vice President  
Progress Energy  
H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant, Unit 2  
3581 West Entrance Rd  
Hartsville, SC 29550

**SUBJECT: H. B. ROBINSON STEAM ELECTRIC PLANT – NRC OPERATOR LICENSE  
EXAMINATION REPORT 05000261/2013301**

Dear Mr. Gideon:

During the period July 29 – August 1, 2013, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) administered operating tests to employees of your company who had applied for licenses to operate the H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant. 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 August 6, 2013.

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 written “SRO only” examination submitted by your staff failed to meet the guidelines for quality contained in NUREG-1021, Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors, Revision 9, Supplement 1, as described in the enclosed report.

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 Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of the NRC’s document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Website 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) 997-4436.

Sincerely,

***/RA by Malcolm T. Widmann Acting for/***

Mark E. Franke, Chief  
Operations Branch 2  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No: 50-261  
License No: DPR-23

Enclosures:

1. Report Details
2. Simulator Fidelity Report

cc: Distribution via Listserv

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact me at (404) 997-4436.

Sincerely,

***/RA by Malcolm T. Widmann Acting for/***

Mark E. Franke, Chief  
Operations Branch 2  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No: 50-261  
License No: DPR-23

- Enclosures:
1. Report Details
  2. Simulator Fidelity Report

cc: Distribution via Listserv

PUBLICLY AVAILABLE    
  NON-PUBLICLY AVAILABLE    
  SENSITIVE    
  NON-SENSITIVE

ADAMS:  Yes   
 ACCESSION NUMBER: ML13268A158   
  SUNSI REVIEW COMPLETE   
  FORM 665 ATTACHED

OFFICE	RII:DRS	RII:DRS	RII:DRS	RII:DRS			
SIGNATURE	RSB2	AXT6	DRL2	MTW for MEF1			
NAME	R. BALDWIN	A. TOTH	D. LANYI	M. FRANKE			
DATE	9/23/2013	9/23/2013	9/23/2013	9/23/2013			
E-MAIL COPY	<b>YES</b> NO	<b>YES</b> NO	<b>YES</b> NO	<b>YES</b> NO			

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY    DOCUMENT NAME: C:\USERS\LXG2\DESKTOP\DRS\HB ROBINSON 2013-301 INITIAL  
 EXAM REPORT FINAL (RSB).DOCX

Letter to William R. Gideon from Mark E. Franke dated September 23, 2013.

SUBJECT: H. B. ROBINSON STEAM ELECTRIC PLANT – NRC OPERATOR LICENSE  
EXAMINATION REPORT 05000261/2013301

**DISTRIBUTION:**

C. Evans, RII EICS

L. Douglas, RII EICS

RIDSNRRDIRS

PUBLIC

RidsNrrPMRobinson Resource

Progress Energy Carolinas, Inc.

ATTN: Mr. Henry Curry

Training Manager

Robinson Steam Electric Plant Unit 2

3581 West Entrance Road

Hartsville, SC 29550

**U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

REGION II

Docket No.: 05000261

License No.: DPR-23

Report No.: 05000261/2013301

Licensee: Carolina Power and Light Company

Facility: H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant, Unit 2

Location: Hartsville, SC 29550

Dates: Operating Test – July 29 – August 1, 2013  
Written Examination – August 6, 2013

Examiners: Richard S. Baldwin, Chief Examiner, Senior Operations Engineer  
J. Amanda Toth, Operations Engineer  
David R. Lanyi, Operations Engineer

Approved by: Mark E. Franke, Chief  
Operations Branch 2  
Division of Reactor Safety

## **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

ER 05000261/2013301; July 29 – August 1, 2013 and August 6, 2013; H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant Unit No. 2; 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 H. B. Robinson staff developed both the operating tests and the written examination. The initial written "SRO only" examination submittal did not meet the quality guidelines contained in NUREG-1021.

The NRC administered the operating tests during the period July 29 – August 1, 2013. Members of the H. B. Robinson training staff administered the written examination on August 6, 2013. All three Reactor Operator (RO) and two Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) applicants passed both the operating test and written examination. All 5 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

#### 4OA5 Operator Licensing Examinations

##### a. Inspection Scope

Members of the H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant 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 NRC reviewed the licensee's examination security measures while preparing and administering the examinations in order to ensure compliance with 10 CFR §55.49, "Integrity of examinations and tests."

The NRC examiners evaluated three Reactor Operator (RO) and two Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) applicants using the guidelines contained in NUREG-1021. The examiners administered the operating tests during the period July 29 – August 1, 2013. Members of the H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant training staff administered the written examination on August 6, 2013. Evaluations of applicants and reviews of associated documentation were performed to determine if the applicants, who applied for licenses to operate the H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant, met the requirements specified in 10 CFR Part 55, "Operators' Licenses."

##### b. Findings

The NRC determined that the licensee's examination submittal was outside the range of acceptable quality specified by NUREG-1021. The initial "SRO only" portion of the written examination submittal was outside the range of acceptable quality because more than 20% [7 of the 25 "SRO only" questions] of questions sampled for review contained unacceptable flaws. Individual questions were evaluated as unsatisfactory for the following reasons:

- Two questions contained two or more implausible distractors.
- Five questions on the SRO examination were not written at the SRO license level.

The NRC regional office worked with the licensee to re-work and correct those questions in accordance with NUREG-1021. Future examination submittals need to incorporate lessons learned.

All applicants passed both the operating test and written examination and were issued licenses. Details concerning the need for additional information have been sent to the

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

The licensee did not submit any post-examination comments. A copy of the RO and SRO final written examinations and answer keys, with all changes incorporated, may be accessed not earlier than August 6, 2015, in the ADAMS system (ADAMS Accession Number(s) ML13219A175 and ML13219A180).

#### 40A6 Meetings, Including Exit

##### Exit Meeting Summary

On August 2, 2013 the NRC Chief Examiner discussed generic issues associated with the operating test with R. Glover, Director - Site Operations, and members of the H. B. Robinson Steam Electric plant staff. The examiners asked the licensee if any of the examination material was proprietary. No proprietary information was identified.

ATTACHMENT: SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION



## **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

### **KEY POINTS OF CONTACT**

#### Licensee personnel

T. Cosgrove, Plant General Manager  
R. Glover, Director – Site Operations  
K. Holbrook, Operations Manager  
R. Hightower, Supervisor – Regulatory Affairs  
S. Peavyhouse, Manager – Organizational Effectiveness  
J. Little, Manager – Shift Operations  
R. Adams, Superintendent – Operations Training  
T. Grigg, Training Manager, Interim  
S. Brown, Superintendent – Operations Performance Improvement  
R. Shane, Supervisor – Operations Initial Training  
C. Orr, Operations – Superintendent Work Control

#### NRC personnel

C. Scott, NRC Resident Inspector

## **SIMULATOR FIDELITY REPORT**

Facility Licensee: H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant

Facility Docket No.: 05000261/2013301

Operating Test Administered: July 29 – August 1, 2013

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.

No simulator fidelity or configuration issues were identified.