



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

November 25, 2013

Mr. Joseph W. Shea  
Vice President, Nuclear Licensing  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
1101 Market Street, LP 3D-C  
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

**SUBJECT: BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT – NOTIFICATION OF LICENSED  
OPERATOR INITIAL EXAMINATION 05000259/2014301, 05000260/2014301,  
AND 05000296/2014301**

Dear Mr. Shea:

In a telephone conversation on November 19, 2013, between Mr. Russ Joplin, Corporate Exam Manager, Mr. Chris Vaughn, Operations Training Manager, Mr. Donald Binkley, Initial License Training Lead, Mr. Mike Gibson, Lead Exam Writer, Mr. Van Miller, Lead Engineer Simulator Services, and Mr. Bruno Caballero, Senior Operations Engineer, arrangements were made for the administration of licensing examinations at Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant. The operating test is scheduled to be administered during the week of April 28, 2014. The written examination is scheduled to be administered the week of May 5, 2014. The onsite preparatory week is scheduled for the week of March 31, 2014.

As agreed during the telephone conversation, your staff will prepare both the operating test and written examination based on the guidelines in Revision 9, Supplement 1, of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) regional office will discuss, with your staff, any changes that might be necessary before the examinations are administered. Your staff has also agreed to make copies of all examination materials that are necessary for administering the examination.

To meet the above schedule, it will be necessary for your staff to furnish the operating test outline, and all reference materials identified in Attachment 3 to ES-201 by January 13, 2014. Mr. Bruno Caballero provided a written examination outline to your staff in July 2013. The written examination will be due by February 3, 2014, and the operating test will be due by February 24, 2014. Pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 55.40(b)(3), an authorized representative of the facility licensee shall approve the outline, examination, and test before they are submitted to the NRC for review and approval. All materials shall be complete and ready-to-use.

We request that any personal, proprietary, sensitive unclassified, or safeguards information in your response be contained in a separate enclosure and appropriately marked. Any delay in receiving the required examination and reference materials, or the submittal of inadequate or incomplete materials, may cause the examinations to be rescheduled.

In order to conduct the requested written examinations and operating tests, it will be necessary for your staff to provide adequate space and accommodations in accordance with ES-402, and to make the simulation facility available on the dates noted above. In accordance with ES-302, your staff should retain the original simulator performance data (e.g., system pressures, temperatures, and levels) generated during the dynamic operating tests until the examination results are final.

Appendix E of NUREG-1021 contains a number of NRC policies and guidelines that will be in effect while the written examinations and operating tests are being administered.

To permit timely NRC review and evaluation, your staff should submit preliminary reactor operator and senior reactor operator license applications, medical certifications, and waiver requests (if any) at least 30 days before the first examination date. If the applications are not received at least 30 days before the examination date, a postponement may be necessary. Signed applications certifying that all training has been completed should be submitted at least 14 days before the first examination date.

This letter contains information collections that are subject to the *Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995* (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). These information collections were approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under approval number 3150-0018, which expires on April 30, 2016. The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 500 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining the data needed, writing the examinations, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments on any aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Information and Records Management Branch (T-6 F33), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, or by Internet electronic mail at [infocollectsresource@nrc.gov](mailto:infocollectsresource@nrc.gov); and to the Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, NEOB-10202, (3150-0018), Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

The NRC may neither conduct nor sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, an information collection, unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter 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 Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), which is accessible from the NRC Website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Mr. Mike Gibson has been advised of the policies and guidelines referenced in this letter. If you have any questions regarding the NRC's examination procedures and guidelines, please contact Mr. Bruno Caballero at 404-997-4608, ([bruno.caballero@nrc.gov](mailto:bruno.caballero@nrc.gov)), or me at 404-997-4662, ([eugene.guthrie@nrc.gov](mailto:eugene.guthrie@nrc.gov)).

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Eugene F. Guthrie, Chief  
Operations Branch 2  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-259, 50-260, and 50-296  
License Nos. DPR-33, DPR-52, and DPR-68

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Sincerely,

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Eugene F. Guthrie, Chief  
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ADAMS:  Yes    ACCESSION NUMBER: ML13329A884     SUNSI REVIEW COMPLETE     FORM 665 ATTACHED

OFFICE	RII:DRS/OLB2	RII:DRS/OLB2					
SIGNATURE	BLC2	GXG					
NAME	B. Caballero	E. Guthrie					
DATE	11/ 25 /2013	11/ 25 /2013					
E-MAIL COPY	<b>YES</b> NO	YES <b>NO</b>					

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