



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

REGION III
2443 WARRENVILLE RD. SUITE 210
LISLE, IL 60532-4352

December 2, 2014

Mr. Anthony Vitale
Vice President, Operations
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
Palisades Nuclear Plant
27780 Blue Star Memorial Highway
Covert, MI 49043-9530

SUBJECT: PALISADES NUCLEAR PLANT
CONFIRMATION OF INITIAL LICENSE EXAMINATION

Dear Mr. Vitale:

In a telephone conversation on November 18, 2014, between Mr. S. Botimer, Operations Training Instructor, and Mr. M. Bielby, Senior Operations Examiner, arrangements were made for the administration of a licensing Senior Reactor Operator written examination at the Palisades Nuclear Plant during the week of January 19, 2015.

As agreed during the telephone conversation, your staff will prepare the 25-question Senior Reactor Operator Initial Retake 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's (NRC's) regional office will discuss with your staff any changes that might be necessary before the examinations are administered.

To meet the above schedule, it will be necessary for your staff to furnish the examination outline by December 10, 2014. The written examination and supporting reference materials identified in Attachment 3 to ES-201 will be due by January 5, 2015. Pursuant to Title 10, Section 55.40(b)(3), of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR 55.40(b)(3)), an authorized representative of the facility licensee shall approve the outline and examination, 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 examination to be rescheduled.

In order to conduct the requested written examination, it will be necessary for your staff to provide adequate space and accommodations in accordance with ES-402.

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

To permit timely NRC review and evaluation, your staff should submit preliminary senior reactor operator license applications (Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval number 3150-0090), medical certification (OMB approval number 3150-0024), and waiver requests (if any) (OMB approval number 3150-0090) at least 30 days before the 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 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, approval number 3150-0018. The public reporting burden for this collection is estimated to average 500 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of these information collections, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Records and FOIA/Privacy Services Branch (T-5 F52), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, or by Internet electronic mail to INFOCOLLECTS@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, a collection of information 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 System (PARS) component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Mr. S. Botimer 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 M. Bielby at 630-829-9762, or me at 630-829-9707.

Sincerely,

/RA Dell McNeil Acting for/

Hironori Peterson, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No. 50-255
License No. DPR-20

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Letter to Mr. Anthony Vitale from Mr. Hironori Peterson dated December 2, 2014

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CONFIRMATION OF INITIAL LICENSE EXAMINATION

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