



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

April 30, 2015

Mr. David R. Vineyard  
Vice President  
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.  
Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant  
11028 Hatch Parkway North  
Baxley, GA 31513

SUBJECT: EDWIN I. HATCH NUCLEAR PLANT – NRC OPERATOR LICENSE  
EXAMINATION REPORT 05000321/2015301 AND 05000366/2015301

Dear Mr. Vineyard:

During the period March 23 – 30, 2015, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) administered operating tests to employees of your company who applied for licenses to operate the Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2. 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 April 9, 2015.

All applicants passed the operating test and written examination. There were no post-examination comments. A Simulation Facility Report is included in this report as Enclosure 2.

The initial examination submittal was within the range of acceptability expected for a proposed examination. All examination changes agreed upon between the NRC and your staff were made according to NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 9, Supplement 1.

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (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 Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), which is accessible from the NRC Website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact me at (404) 997-4551.

Sincerely,

***/RA/***

Gerald J. McCoy, Chief  
Operations Branch 1  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-321 and 50-366  
License Nos. DPR-57 and NPF-5

Enclosures:

1. Report Details
2. Simulation Facility Report

cc: Distribution via Listserv

D. Vineyard

2

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact me at (404) 997-4551.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Gerald J. McCoy, Chief  
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**DISTRIBUTION:**

S. Price, RII, EICS

L. Douglas, RII, EICS

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PUBLIC

RidsNrrPMHatch Resource

**(\*) – SEE PREVIOUS PAGE FOR CONCURRENCE**

x ☐ PUBLICLY AVAILABLE

☐ NON-PUBLICLY AVAILABLE

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x ☐ NON-SENSITIVE

ADAMS: x ☐ Yes    ACCESSION NUMBER: \_\_ML15121A726\_\_    x ☐ SUNSI REVIEW COMPLETE    ☐ FORM 665 ATTACHED

OFFICE	RII:DRS	RII:DRS	RII:DRS	RII:DRS			
SIGNATURE	<b>JXV3</b>	<b>GJM1 FOR</b>	<b>MAB7 FOR *</b>	<b>GJM1</b>			
NAME	VIERA	GOLDAU	Bates for Capehart	MCCOY			
DATE	4/30/2015	4/30/2015	4/28/2015	4/30/2015	5/ /2015	5/ /2015	5/ /2015
E-MAIL COPY?	YES   NO	YES   NO	YES   NO	YES   NO	YES   NO	YES   NO	YES   NO

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY    DOCUMENT NAME: G:\OLEXAMS\HATCH EXAMINATIONS\INITIAL EXAM 2015-301\CORRESPONDENCE\HATCH 2015301 EXAM REPORT.DOCX

**U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

**REGION II**

Docket Nos: 50-321 and 50-366

License Nos: DPR-57 and NPF-5

Report Nos: 05000321/2015301 and 05000366/2015301

Licensee: Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC)

Facility: Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2

Location: Baxley, GA

Dates: Operating Test – March 23 - 30, 2015  
Written Examination – April 9, 2015

Examiners: P. Capehart, Chief Examiner, Senior Operations Engineer  
J. Viera, Operations Engineer  
A. Goldau, Operations Engineer

Approved by: Gerald J. McCoy, Chief  
Operations Branch 1  
Division of Reactor Safety

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

ER 05000321/2015301 and 05000366/2015301; March 23 - 30, 2015, and April 9, 2015; Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2; Operator License Examinations.

U.S. 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 Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 55.41, 55.43, and 55.45, as applicable.

Members of the Edwin I. Hatch staff developed both the operating tests and the written examination. The NRC developed the written examination outlines. The initial operating test, written Reactor Operator (RO) examination, and written Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) examination submittals met the quality guidelines contained in NUREG-1021.

The NRC administered the operating tests during the period of March 23 - 30, 2015 to five RO applicants and three SRO applicants. Members of the Edwin I. Hatch training staff administered the written examination on April 9, 2015. All the applicants passed both the operating test and written examination. All the 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

The NRC evaluated the submitted operating test by combining the scenario events and JPMs in order to determine the percentage of submitted test items that required replacement or significant modification. The NRC also evaluated the submitted written examination questions (RO and SRO questions considered separately) in order to determine the percentage of submitted questions that required replacement or significant modification, or that clearly did not conform with the intent of the approved knowledge and ability (K/A) statement. Any questions that were deleted during the grading process, or for which the answer key had to be changed, were also included in the count of unacceptable questions. The percentage of submitted test items that were unacceptable was compared to the acceptance criteria of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Standards for Power Reactors."

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 administered the operating tests during the period of March 23 – 30, 2015. The NRC examiners evaluated five Reactor Operator (RO) and three Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) applicants using the guidelines contained in NUREG-1021. Members of the Edwin I. Hatch training staff administered the written examination on April 9, 2015. Evaluations of applicants and reviews of associated documentation were performed to determine if the applicants, who applied for licenses to operate the Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant, met the requirements specified in 10 CFR Part 55, "Operators' Licenses."

The NRC evaluated the performance or fidelity of the simulation facility during the preparation and conduct of the operating tests.

##### b. Findings

No findings were identified.

The NRC developed the written examination sample plan outline. Members of the Edwin I. Hatch training 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. 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 determined, using NUREG-1021, that the licensee's initial examination submittal was within the range of acceptability expected for a proposed examination.

All the applicants passed both the operating test and written examination and were issued licenses.

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 final written examination and answer key, with all changes incorporated, may be accessed not earlier than April 14, 2017, in the ADAMS system (ADAMS Accession Numbers: ML15105A284 and ML15105A290).

#### 4OA6 Meetings, Including Exit

##### Exit Meeting Summary

On March 30, 2015, the NRC examination team discussed generic issues associated with the operating test with Mr. David Vineyard, Site Vice President, and members of the Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant staff. The examiners asked the licensee if any of the examination material was proprietary. No proprietary information was identified.

### **KEY POINTS OF CONTACT**

#### Licensee personnel

D. Vineyard, Senior Vice President  
 A. Ball, Operator Training  
 J. Campbell, Training – ILT Lead Instructor  
 S. Courson, Operator Training  
 B. Deen, Training Director  
 A. Genereux, Operator Training  
 E. Jones, License Training I Operator Training  
 G. Johnson, Site Regulatory Affairs Manager  
 K. Long, WM Director  
 J. Major, Licensing Engineer  
 K. Wainwright, Operations Training Manager

#### NRC personnel

D. Retterer, Resident inspector

## **SIMULATOR FIDELITY REPORT**

Facility Licensee: Edwin I. Hatch

Facility Docket Nos: 50-321 and 50-366

Operating Test Administered: March 23 – 30, 2015

This form is 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.