



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

REGION I
2100 RENAISSANCE BLVD., SUITE 100
KING OF PRUSSIA, PA 19406-2713

February 22, 2016

Mr. Robert Braun
President and Chief Nuclear Officer
PSEG Nuclear LLC – N09
P. O. Box 236
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

SUBJECT: SALEM NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2 -
INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSING EXAMINATION REPORT 05000272/2016301
AND 05000311/2016301

Dear Mr. Braun:

On December 21, 2015, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed an examination at Salem Nuclear Generating Station Units 1 and 2. The enclosed examination report documents the examination results, which were discussed on January 27, 2016, with Mr. E. Parker, Training Director, and other members of your staff.

The examination included the evaluation of four applicants for reactor operator licenses and six applicants for instant senior reactor operator licenses. The written and operating examinations were developed using NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 10. The license examiners determined that all 10 applicants satisfied the requirements of 10 CFR Part 55, and the appropriate licenses were issued on January 27, 2016.

No findings were identified during this examination.

In accordance with Title 10 of "*Code of Federal Regulation (CFR)*," 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access Management System (ADAMS).

R. Braun

-2-

ADAMS is accessible from the NRC's Website <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html#web-based-adams> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Sincerely,

/RA/

Donald E. Jackson, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-272 and 50-311
License Nos. DPR-70 and DPR-75

Enclosure:
Examination Report 05000272 and
05000311/2016301 w/Attachment:
Supplementary Information

cc w/encl: Distribution via ListServ

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EXAMINATION REPORT

**U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I**

Dockets: 50-272, 50-311

Licenses: DPR-70, DPR-75

Report: 05000272/2016301 and 05000311/2016301

Licensee: PSEG Nuclear LLC (PSEG)

Facility: Salem Nuclear Generating Station Units 1 and 2

Location: P.O. Box 236
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

Dates: 12/14-18/2015 (Operating test administration)
12/21/2015 (Written examination administration)
1/4/2016 (Licensee submitted post exam package)
1/12/2016 (Licensee submitted additional exam information)
1/2-21/2016 (NRC examination grading)
1/27/2016 (Licenses issued)

Examiners: T. Fish, Chief Examiner, Operations Branch
J. D'Antonio, Senior Operations Engineer
J. DeMarshall, Senior Operations Engineer (Headquarters)
M. Patel, Operations Engineer

Approved By: Donald E. Jackson, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

SUMMARY

ER 05000272/2016301 and 05000311/2016301; 12/14-21/2015; Salem Nuclear Generating Station Units 1 and 2; Initial Operator Licensing Examination Report.

Four NRC examiners evaluated the competency of four applicants for reactor operator licenses and six applicants for instant senior reactor operator licenses at Salem Nuclear Generating Station Units 1 and 2. The facility licensee developed the examinations using NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 10. The written examination was administered by the facility on December 21, 2015. NRC examiners administered the operating tests December 14-18, 2015. The NRC examiners determined that all 10 applicants satisfied the requirements of 10 CFR Part 55, and the appropriate licenses have been issued.

No findings were identified.

REPORT DETAILS

4. OTHER ACTIVITIES (OA)

4OA5 Other Activities (Initial Operator License Examination)

.1 License Applications

a. Scope

The examiners reviewed all 10 license applications, and additional information, submitted by the licensee to ensure the applications reflected that each applicant satisfied relevant license eligibility requirements. This review focused on each applicant's experience and on-the-job training, including control manipulations that provided significant reactivity changes. The applications were submitted on NRC Form 398, "Personal Qualification Statement," and NRC Form 396, "Certification of Medical Examination by Facility Licensee."

b. Findings

No findings were identified.

.2 Operator Knowledge and Performance

a. Examination Scope

On December 21, 2015, the licensee proctored the administration of the written examinations to all 10 applicants. The licensee staff graded the written examinations, analyzed the results, and presented their analysis to the NRC on January 4, 2016.

The NRC examination team administered the various portions of the operating examination to all 10 applicants December 14-18, 2015. The four applicants for reactor operator licenses participated in at least two dynamic simulator scenarios, in a control room and facilities walkthrough test consisting of 11 system tasks, and an administrative test consisting of four administrative tasks. The six applicants seeking an instant senior reactor operator license participated in at least two dynamic simulator scenarios, a control room and facilities walkthrough test consisting of 10 system tasks, and an administrative test consisting of five administrative tasks.

b. Findings

All 10 applicants passed all parts of the operating test and the written examination. For the written examinations, the reactor operator applicants' average score was 86.33 percent and ranged from 80.00 to 98.66 percent. The senior operator applicants' average score was 89.72 percent and ranged from 84.84 to 94.94 percent. The NRC examiners completed the final grading of the written examination on January 21, 2016, and conducted a review of each missed question to determine the accuracy and validity of the examination questions.

The written examination questions may be accessed in the Agencywide Documents Access System (ADAMS) system under the Accession numbers noted in the Attachment to this report. In accordance with current NRC policy, the release of this written examination in ADAMS to the public will be delayed for 2 years.

Chapter ES-403 and Form ES-403-1 of NUREG 1021 require the licensee to analyze the validity of any written examination questions that were missed by half or more of the applicants. The licensee conducted this performance analysis and submitted the analysis to the chief examiner.

The licensee submitted five post-examination question challenges on January 12, 2016. These challenges and their associated NRC response can be found in ADAMS under the Accession number noted in the Attachment to this report.

.3 Initial Licensing Examination Development

a. Examination Scope

The facility licensee developed the examinations in accordance with NUREG-1021, Revision 10. All licensee facility training and operations staff involved in examination preparation and validation were listed on a security agreement. The facility licensee submitted both the written and operating examination outlines on September 14, 2015. The chief examiner reviewed the outlines against the requirements of NUREG-1021, and provided comments to the licensee. The facility licensee submitted the draft examination package on October 16, 2015. The chief examiner reviewed the draft examination package against the requirements of NUREG-1021 and provided comments to the licensee. The NRC conducted an onsite validation of the operating examinations and provided further comments during the week of November 2, 2015. The licensee satisfactorily completed comment resolution on December 7, 2015.

b. Findings

The NRC approved the initial examination outline and advised the licensee to proceed with the operating examination development. The examiners determined that the written and operating examinations initially submitted by the licensee were within the range of acceptability expected for a proposed examination.

No findings were identified.

.4 Simulation Facility Performance

a. Examination Scope

The examiners observed simulator performance with regard to plant fidelity during the examination validation and administration.

b. Findings

No findings were identified.

.5 Examination Security

a. Examination Scope

The examiners reviewed examination security for examination development and during both the onsite preparation week and examination administration week for compliance with NUREG-1021 requirements. Plans for simulator security and applicant control were reviewed and discussed with licensee personnel.

b. Findings

No findings were identified.

4OA6 Meetings, Including Exit

The chief examiner presented the examination results to Mr. E. Parker, Training Director, and other members of the licensee's management staff on January 27, 2016. The licensee acknowledged the findings presented.

The licensee did not identify any information or materials used during the examination as proprietary.

Attachment:
Supplementary Information

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

KEY POINTS OF CONTACT

Licensee Personnel

E. Parker, Training Director

G. Gauding, Facility Exam Author

ITEMS OPENED, CLOSED, AND DISCUSSED

NONE

ADAMS DOCUMENTS REFERENCED

Accession No. ML16050A331, Written Exam. (Note: In accordance with current NRC policy, the release of this written examination in ADAMS to the public will be delayed for 2 years.)

Accession No. ML16050A332, Operating Exam.

Accession No. ML16050A330, Facility Post Exam Comments and NRC Resolutions