



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

June 30, 2016

MEMORANDUM TO: Donald Jackson.
Chief, Operations Branch, Region I

Gerald McCoy
Chief, Operations Branch 1, Region II

Gene Guthrie
Chief, Operations Branch 2, Region II

Robert Orlikowski
Chief, Operations Branch, Region III

Vincent Gaddy
Chief, Operations Branch, Region IV

FROM: Maurin Scheetz */RA/*
Acting Chief, Operator Licensing and Training Branch

SUBJECT: DELAYED PUBLIC RELEASE OF OPERATOR
LICENSE EXAMINATION RELATED MATERIAL

In response to multiple public comments submitted for Draft Report NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 11, the Operator Licensing program office is revising the policy for delayed public release of initial licensing examination material to include additional material. The delayed public release of this material allows facility licensees to use past Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) exams as audit examinations for future license applicants thereby effecting considerable resource savings. Operator Licensing and Training Branch (IOLB) reviewed Management Directive 3.4, "Release of Information to the Public," and verified that documents categorized as "License-Operator License Exam, Draft" and "License-Operator, Part 55 Examination Related Material," are exempt from the NRC's general release policy.

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As of July, 1, 2016, IOLB and the Regional Offices shall delay public release of the following examination-related documents for 2 years from the date of exam administration:

- The written examination and operating test outline(s) and worksheet(s): ES-401-1, ES-401-2, ES-401-3, ES-401-5, ES-401N-1, ES-401N-2, ES-401N-3, ES-401N-5, (or the equivalent LSRO forms from ES-701)
- Form ES-401-4 or ES-401N-4, "Record of Rejected K/As" (or the equivalent LSRO forms from ES-701)
- The proposed NRC- or facility-developed operating tests and written examination
- The final written examination and answer key with all changes incorporated
- Forms ES-401-6 or ES-401N-6, "Written Examination Quality Checklist," and ES-401-9 or ES-401N-9, "Written Examination Review Worksheet" (or the equivalent LSRO forms from ES-701), and any reference handouts (or a list thereof) provided to the applicants
- The as-given scenarios including Forms ES-D-1, "Scenario Outline," and ES-D-2, "Required Operator Actions," for each scenario set administered.
- The as-given walk-through tests including Forms ES-301-1, "Administrative Topics Outline," and ES-301-2, "Control Room/In-Plant Systems Outline"
- Form ES-301-7, "Operating Test Review Worksheet" (or the equivalent LSRO forms from ES-701)

In the examination report, continue to cite the accession number(s) for the final examination(s) but indicate that the release of these documents will be delayed and include the delayed release date. The examination report shall still include or cite the accession number for a copy of the facility licensee's and applicants' post-examination comments including the explanation for accepting or rejecting each recommendation and a justification for deletion or changes. Proposed and final denial letters will continue to include a copy of the written examination and answer key and/or the applicable operating test portions.

Starting with the March 2017 Generic Fundamentals Examination (GFE), IOLB shall delay public release of GFE related material for 1 year from the date of examination administration. The 2016 GFEs will continue to be delayed for 6 months in accordance with ROI-2010-01. IOLB determined that reducing the frequency of the GFE in calendar year 2017, warrants extending the delay from 6 months to 1 year.

In addition, ensure the ADAMS profile for examination related material specifies the document(s) as “Publicly Available” and “Delay Release Until - Date” (24 months from date of the initial examination, 12 months from the date of the GFE) and includes:

- “SUNSI Review Complete” annotation in the Keyword field
- Select “License-Operator, Part 55 Examination Related Material” in the profiles Document Field

These modifications to the policy regarding the public release of operator licensing examination related material does not affect Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requirements. If any of the above listed documents are requested through a FOIA request prior to public release, the request shall be fulfilled in accordance with NRC FOIA procedures and timeliness requirements.

References:

Management Directive 3.4, “Release of Information to the Public,”

Internal Public Release Timeliness Report Criteria

ROI-2010-10 “Delayed Release of 10 CFR 55 Initial Written Examination Information”

NUREG-1021, Revision 10, Section ES-501 F.1

In addition, ensure the ADAMS profile for examination related material specifies the document(s) as “Publicly Available” and “Delay Release Until - Date” (24 months from date of the initial examination, 12 months from the date of the GFE) and includes:

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