



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
REGION II
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ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-1257

July 1, 2016

Michael Yox
Regulatory Affairs Director
Southern Nuclear Operating Company
7835 River road, Bldg. 140, Vogtle 3&4
Waynesboro, GA 30830

**SUBJECT: VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT UNITS 3 – NOTIFICATION OF
LICENSED OPERATOR INITIAL EXAMINATION (0520025/2016301)**

Dear Mr. Yox:

During a telephone conversation on January 20, 2016, between Mr. Chuck Howard, Lead Nuclear Plant Operations (NPO) Instructor, Mr. Andy Nichols, NPO Instructor, Mr. Ben Denlinger, NPO Instructor, Mr. Jim Dugas, NPO Instructor, and Mr. Bruno Caballero, Senior Operations Engineer, arrangements were made for the administration of licensing examinations at Vogtle Electric Generating Plant Units 3. The on-site preparatory week was the week of March 14, 2016. The operating test is scheduled to be administered during the weeks of July 18 and July 25, 2016. The written examination is scheduled to be administered the week of August 1, 2016.

As agreed during the telephone conversation, your staff will prepare both the operating test and written examination based on the guidelines in Revision 10 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.

Mr. Bruno Caballero provided a written examination outline to your staff in February, 2015. Your staff provided the operating test outline, and the supporting reference materials identified in Attachment 3 to ES-201, on July 15, 2015. Your staff provided the written examination on November 18, 2015 and the operating test on February 24, 2016. 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, examination, and test before they are submitted to the NRC for review and approval. All materials shall be complete and ready-to-use.

We requested that any personal, proprietary, sensitive unclassified, or safeguards information in your response be contained in a separate enclosure and appropriately marked.

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.

Your staff submitted preliminary reactor operator and senior reactor operator license applications (Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval number 3150-0090), medical certifications (OMB approval number 3150-0024), and waiver requests (if any) (OMB approval number 3150-0090) on June 3, 2016. 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. The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 2500 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; 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 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 document system (ADAMS). ADAMS 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. Chuck Howard 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. Mark Bates at (404) 997-4612, (Internet E-mail: Mark.Bates@nrc.gov), or me at (404) 997-4662 (Internet E-mail: Eugene.Guthrie@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

/RA/

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

Docket No.: 5200025
License No.: NPF-91

cc: See Page 4

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Mr. Chuck Howard 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. Mark Bates at (404) 997-4612, (Internet E-mail: Mark.Bates@nrc.gov), or me at (404) 997-4662 (Internet E-mail: Eugene.Guthrie@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

/RA/

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

Docket No.: 5200025
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cc: See Page 4

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 ADAMS: Yes ACCESSION NUMBER: _____ SUNSI REVIEW COMPLETE FORM 665 ATTACHED

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NAME	MBATES	GUTHRIE	ERNSTES				
DATE	6/30/2016	7/1/2016	7/1/2016				
E-MAIL COPY?	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO

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