



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

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

August 9, 2016

Mr. Brian D. Boles
Site Vice President
FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Co.
Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station
5501 N. State Rte. 2, Mail Stop A-DB-3080
Oak Harbor, OH 43449-9760

**SUBJECT: DAVIS-BESSE NUCLEAR POWER STATION – NRC INITIAL LICENSE
EXAMINATION REPORT 05000346/2016301**

Dear Mr. Boles:

On June 29, 2016, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed the initial operator licensing examination process for license applicants employed at your Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station. The enclosed report documents the results of those examinations. Preliminary observations noted during the examination process were discussed on June 17, 2016, with Mr. R. Oesterle, Superintendent, Nuclear Operations, and other members of your staff. An exit meeting was conducted by telephone on July 1, 2016, between Mr. R. Oesterle of your staff and Mr. M. Bielby, Senior Operator Licensing Examiner, to review the proposed final grading of the written examination for the license applicants. During the telephone conversation, the NRC verified with Mr. Oesterle that the station had no post-examination comments, as originally received by the NRC on June 29, 2016.

The NRC examiners administered an initial license examination operating test during the week of June 13, 2016. The written examination was administered by Davis-Besse Training Department personnel on June 20, 2016. One Reactor Operator and four Senior Reactor Operator applicants were administered license examinations. One additional Senior Reactor Operator was administered the written examination only. The results of the examinations were finalized on July 7, 2016. All applicants passed all sections of their respective examinations. Five applicants were issued senior operator licenses and one was issued an operator license.

The written examination, operating test and related documentation will be withheld from public disclosure for 24 months per your request.

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* 2.390, "Public Inspections, Exemptions, Requests for Withholding," of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosure, and your response (if any) will be available electronically for public inspection

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in the NRC's Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Sincerely,

/RA/

Robert J. Orlikowski, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No. 50-346
License No. NPF-3

Enclosures:

1. Operating License Examination
Report 05000346/2016301
2. Simulation Facility Fidelity Report

cc: Distribution via LISTSERV®
J. Cuff, Davis-Besse Training
Manager

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION III

Docket No: 50-346
License No: NPF-3

Report No: 05000346/2016301

Licensee: FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company (FENOC)

Facility: Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station

Location: Oak Harbor, OH

Dates: June 13, 2016, through June 29, 2016

Inspectors: M. Bielby, Chief Examiner, Senior Operations Engineer
R. Walton, Examiner; Senior Operations Engineer
N. Valos, Examiner; Senior Reactor Analyst

Approved by: R. Orlikowski, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

SUMMARY

Examination Report 05000346/2016301; 06/13/2016 – 06/29/2016; FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company; Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station; Initial License Examination Report.

The announced initial operator licensing examination was conducted by regional U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) examiners in accordance with the guidance of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 10.

Examination Summary

Five applicants passed all sections of their respective examinations. One additional applicant passed the written examination which was his initial retake, and received a waiver of the Operating Test based on performance during the previous initial operator license examination. Five applicants were issued senior operator licenses and one applicant was issued an operator license. (Section 4OA5.1).

REPORT DETAILS

40A5 Other Activities

.1 Initial Licensing Examinations

a. Examination Scope

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) examiners and members of the facility licensee's staff used the guidance prescribed in NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 10, to develop, validate, administer, and grade the written examination and operating test. Members of the facility licensee's staff prepared the outline and developed the written examination and operating test. The NRC examiners validated the proposed examination during the week of May 16, 2016, with the assistance of members of the facility licensee's staff. During the on-site validation week, the examiners audited four of the license applications for accuracy. The NRC examiners, with the assistance of members of the facility licensee's staff, administered the operating test, consisting of job performance measures (JPMs) and dynamic simulator scenarios, during the period of June 13, 2016, through June 17, 2016. The facility licensee administered the written examination on June 20, 2016.

b. Findings

(1) Written Examination

The NRC examiners determined that the written examination, as proposed by the licensee, was within the range of acceptability expected for a proposed examination. Less than 20 percent of the proposed examination questions were determined to be unsatisfactory and required modification or replacement.

All changes made to the proposed written examination, were made in accordance with NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," and documented on Form ES-401-9, "Written Examination Review Worksheet," which will be available electronically in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). (ADAMS Accession Number ML16217A397)

On June 29, 2016, the licensee submitted documentation noting that there were no post-examination comments for consideration by the NRC examiners when grading the written examination. The proposed written examination, as well as the final as-administered examination and answer key (ADAMS Accession Numbers ML16217A323 and ML 16217A324), will be available in 24 months electronically in the NRC Public Document Room or from the PARS component of NRC's ADAMS.

The NRC examiners graded the written examination on July 6, 2016, and conducted a review of each missed question to determine the accuracy and validity of the examination questions.

(2) Operating Test

The NRC examiners determined that the operating test, as originally proposed by the licensee, was within the range of acceptability expected for a proposed examination. Changes made to the operating test, documented in a document titled, "Operating Test Comments," as well as the final as-administered dynamic simulator scenarios and JPMs, are available electronically in the NRC Public Document Room or from the PARS component of NRC's ADAMS. (ADAMS Accession Numbers ML16217A286; ML16217A295; ML16217A310; ML16217A316)

The NRC examiners completed operating test grading on July 7, 2016.

(3) Examination Results

Four applicants at the Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) level and one applicant at the Reactor Operator (RO) level were administered written examinations and operating tests. One additional applicant at the SRO level was administered a written examination only, because the applicant received a waiver of the Operating Test based on performance during the previous initial operator license examination. All six applicants passed all portions of their examinations and were issued their respective operating licenses on July 7, 2016.

.2 Examination Security

a. Scope

The NRC examiners reviewed and observed the licensee's implementation of examination security requirements during the examination validation and administration to assure compliance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, Section 55.49, "Integrity of Examinations and Tests." The examiners used the guidelines provided in NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," to determine acceptability of the licensee's examination security activities.

b. Findings

No findings were identified.

4OA6 Management Meetings

.1 Debrief

The chief examiner presented the examination team's preliminary observations and findings on June 17, 2016, to Mr. R. Oesterle, Superintendent Operations, and other members of the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station Operations and Training Department staff.

.2 Exit Meeting

The chief examiner conducted an exit meeting on July 1, 2016, with D. Saltz, General Plant Manager, and other members of the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station Operations and Training Department staff by telephone. The NRC confirmed there were no post-examination comments during the telephone discussion. The examiners asked the licensee whether any of the material used to develop or administer the examination should be considered proprietary. No proprietary or sensitive information was identified during the examination or debrief/exit meetings.

ATTACHMENT: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

KEY POINTS OF CONTACT

Licensee

D. Saltz, General Plant Manager
M. Brown, Superintendent Fleet Training
J. Cuff, Training Manager
T. Gaydosik, Lead Fleet Exam Team
D. Hartnett, Superintendent Operations Training
M. Klein, Exam Development Fleet Training
S. Martin, Initial License Training Supervisor
R. Oesterle, Superintendent Operations
J. Phillippe, Superintendent Operations Services
V. Wadsworth, Team Lead Regulatory Compliance

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D. Kimble, Davis-Besse Senior Resident Inspector
T. Briley, Davis-Besse Resident Inspector
M. Bielby, Chief Examiner, Senior Operations Engineer
R. Walton, Examiner, Senior Operations Engineer
N. Valos, Examiner, Senior Reactor Analyst

ITEMS OPENED, CLOSED, AND DISCUSSED

Opened, Closed, and Discussed

None

LIST OF ACRONYMS USED

ADAMS	Agencywide Document Access and Management System
CFR	<i>Code of Federal Regulations</i>
JPM	Job Performance Measures
NRC	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
PARS	Publicly Available Records
RO	Reactor Operator
SRO	Senior Reactor Operator

SIMULATION FACILITY FIDELITY REPORT

Facility Licensee: Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station

Facility Docket No: 50-346

Operating Tests Administered: June 13-17, 2016

The following documents observations made by the NRC examination team during the initial operator license examination. These observations do not constitute audit or inspection findings and are not, without further verification and review, indicative of non-compliance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* 55.45(b). These observations do not affect NRC certification or approval of the simulation facility other than to provide information which may be used in future evaluations. No licensee action is required in response to these observations.

During the conduct of the simulator portion of the operating tests, the following items were observed:

ITEM	DESCRIPTION
None	None

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in the NRC's Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Sincerely,

/RA/

Robert J. Orlikowski, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

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J. Cuff, Davis-Besse Training
Manager

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