



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

August 17, 2016

Mr. Scott Batson  
Vice President, Oconee Nuclear Station  
Duke Energy Corporation  
7800 Rochester Highway  
Seneca, SC 29672-0752

SUBJECT: OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION – NRC OPERATOR LICENSE EXAMINATION  
REPORT NOS.: 05000269/2016301, 05000270/2016301 AND  
05000287/2016301

Dear Mr. Batson:

During the period June 13 - 17, 2016, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) administered operating tests to employees of your company who had applied for licenses to operate the Oconee Nuclear Station. At the conclusion of the tests, the examiners discussed preliminary findings related to the operating tests with those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report. The written examination was administered by your staff on June 22, 2016.

All the applicants passed both the operating test and written examination. There were no post-examination comments. A Simulator Fidelity 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 10.

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).

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact me at (404) 997-4662.

Sincerely,

***/RA By Gerald McCoy For/***

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

Docket Nos.: 50-269, 50-270, 50-287  
License Nos.: DPR-38, DPR-47, DPR-55

Enclosures:

1. Report Details
2. Simulator Fidelity Report

cc: Distribution via Listserv

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PUBLICLY AVAILABLE     
  NON-PUBLICLY AVAILABLE     
  SENSITIVE     
  NON-SENSITIVE  
 ADAMS:  Yes     
 ACCESSION NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_     
  SUNSI REVIEW COMPLETE     
  FORM 665 ATTACHED

OFFICE	RII:DRS	RII:DRS	HQS	RII:DRS			
SIGNATURE	Rsb2	<b>AXG1 via email</b>	<b>JXD18 via email</b>	<b>GJM1 For/</b>			
NAME	BALDWIN	GOLDAU	DeMARSHALL	GUTHRIE			
DATE	8/ 16 /2016	8/ 9 /2016	8/ 8 /2016	8/ /2016			
E-MAIL COPY?	<b>YES</b> NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO

**U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

REGION II

Docket Nos.: 50-269, 50-270, and 50-287

License Nos.: DPR-38, DPR-47, and DPR-55

Report Nos.: 05000269/2016301, 05000270/2016301 AND 05000287/2016301

Licensee: Duke Energy Carolinas LLC

Facility: Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2, and 3

Location: Seneca, SC

Dates: Operating Test – June 13-17, 2016  
Written Examination – June 22, 2016

Examiners: Richard S. Baldwin, Chief Examiner, Senior Operations Engineer  
A. Goldau, Operations Engineer  
J. DeMarshall, Reactor Operations Engineer,

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

## **SUMMARY**

ER 05000269/2016301, 05000270/2016301, and 05000287/2016301; operating test June 13 – 17, 2016 and written exam June 22, 2016; Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2, and 3; Operator License Examinations.

Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) examiners conducted an initial examination in accordance with the guidelines in Revision 10, of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." This examination implemented the operator licensing requirements identified in 10 CFR §55.41, §55.43, and §55.45, as applicable.

Members of the Oconee Nuclear Station staff developed both the operating tests and the written examination. The initial operating test, written RO examination, and written SRO examination submittals met the quality guidelines contained in NUREG-1021.

The NRC administered the operating tests during the period June 13 – 17, 2016. Members of the Oconee Nuclear Plant training staff administered the written examination on June 22, 2016. All applicants passed both the operating test and written examination. All 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 June 13 – 17, 2016. The NRC examiners evaluated five Reactor Operator (RO) and four Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) applicants using the guidelines contained in NUREG-1021. Members of the Oconee Nuclear Station training staff administered the written examination on June 22, 2016. Evaluations of applicants and reviews of associated documentation were performed to determine if the applicants, who applied for licenses to operate the Oconee Nuclear Station, 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 Oconee Nuclear Station training staff developed both the operating tests and the written examination. All examination material was developed in accordance with the guidelines contained in Revision 10, 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, using NUREG-1021, determined that the licensee's initial examination submittal was within the range of acceptability expected for a proposed examination.

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 RO and SRO final written examinations and answer keys respectively, with all changes incorporated, may be accessed not earlier than June 23, 2018, in the ADAMS system (ADAMS Accession Number(s) ML16196A049 and ML16196A048).

#### 40A6 Meetings, Including Exit

##### Exit Meeting Summary

On June 17, 2016, the NRC examination team discussed generic issues associated with the operating test with J. R. Steely, Training Manager, and members of the Oconee Nuclear Station 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

J. R. Steely, Training Manager  
F. Baldwin, Assistant Operations Manager, Training  
T. Lawson, NRC Exam Training Supervisor  
C. Rop, Operations Training Manager

## **SIMULATOR FIDELITY REPORT**

Facility Licensee: Oconee Nuclear Station

Facility Docket Nos.: 50-269, 50-270, and 50-287

Operating Test Administered: June 13-17, 2016

This form is to be 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.