



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

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

September 8, 2016

Mr. Charles Arnone  
Vice President, Operations  
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.  
Palisades Nuclear Plant  
27780 Blue Star Memorial Highway  
Covert, MI 49043-9530

**SUBJECT: PALISADES NUCLEAR PLANT – CONFIRMATION OF INITIAL LICENSE  
EXAMINATION**

Dear Mr. Arnone:

In a telephone conversation on September 7, 2016, between Mr. S. Botimer, Initial License Examination Project Lead, and Mr. R. Baker, Region III Operations Engineer, arrangements were made for the administration of licensing examinations, at the Palisades Nuclear Plant, during the weeks of February 13 and February 20, 2017. In addition, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will make an examination validation visit to your facility the week of January 16, 2017.

As agreed during the telephone conversation, the staff of the NRC will prepare the examinations based on the guidelines in Revision 10 of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." Your staff will be given the opportunity to review the examinations during the week of January 16, 2017.

To meet the above schedule, your staff provided the reference materials identified in Attachment 3 to ES-201, as of the date of this letter. We requested that any personal, proprietary, sensitive unclassified, or safeguards information in your response be contained in a separate enclosure and appropriately marked. Any delay in receiving the required examination materials, or the submittal of inadequate or incomplete materials, may cause the examinations to be rescheduled.

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 to 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 should submit 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), at least 30 days before the first examination date, so as to ensure a timely NRC review and evaluation process. If the applications are not received at least 30 days before the examination date, a postponement may be necessary. Signed applications certifying that all training has been completed should be submitted at least 14 days before the first examination date.

After you have been notified by the NRC Chief Examiner or Branch Chief that operator licenses have been issued, please direct any inquiries concerning a formal presentation of certificates to this office. Our goal is to have the operator certificates available for your celebration. At least 1 month advance notice of your celebration arrangements would be appreciated to plan our senior manager attendance and process the certificates.

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 OMB, under approval number 3150-0018. The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 500 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining the data needed, 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 to [BJS1@nrc.gov](mailto:BJS1@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 Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR) 2.390, "Public Inspections, Exemptions, Requests for Withholding," of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection 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).

C. Arnone

-3-

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Mr. Botimer 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. Randal Baker at 630-829-9871, or me at 630-829-9834.

Sincerely,

***/RA Mike Bielby Acting for/***

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

Docket No. 50-225  
License No. DPR-20

cc: Distribution via LISTSERV®

C. Arnone

-3-

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Mr. Botimer 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. Randal Baker at 630-829-9871, or me at 630-829-9834.

Sincerely,

*/RA Mike Bielby Acting for/*

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

Docket No. 50-225  
License No. DPR-20

cc: Distribution via LISTSERV®

DISTRIBUTION:

Jeremy Bowen  
RidsNrrPMPalisades Resource  
RidsNrrDorLpl3-1 Resource  
RidsNrrDirslrib Resource  
Cynthia Pederson  
Darrell Roberts  
Richard Skokowski  
Allan Barker  
Carole Ariano  
Linda Linn  
DRPIII  
DRSIII  
Maurin Scheetz

ADAMS Accession Number: ML16252A439

Publicly Available       Non-Publicly Available       Sensitive       Non-Sensitive

To receive a copy of this document, indicate in the concurrence box "C" = Copy without attach/encl "E" = Copy with attach/encl "N" = No copy

OFFICE	RIII	RIII	RIII	RIII
NAME	RBaker:jw	MBielby for ROrlikowski		
DATE	09/08/16	09/08/16		

**OFFICIAL RECORD COPY**