



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

September 9, 2016

South Carolina Electric & Gas Company
ATTN: Mr. Paul Mothena
Manager, Nuclear Training, Unit 2
Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station
P. O. Box 88 (Mail Code P40)
Jenkinsville, SC 29065-0088

**SUBJECT: V. C. SUMMER NUCLEAR POWER PLANT – CHANGE TO APPLICATION
STATUS FOR INITIAL LICENSE EXAMINATION**

Dear Mr. Mothena:

The Commission's regulations at 10 CFR § 55.31 "How to Apply" describe the application process for an operator license or senior operator license, including the requirement to complete and submit NRC Form 398, "Personal Qualification Statement—Licensee." Pursuant to 10 CFR §§ 55.33 "Disposition of an Initial Application" and 55.51 "Issuance of Licenses," the Commission will approve an initial application for an operator license or senior operator license if it finds that (1) the applicants medical condition and general health are sufficient or may be accommodated through usage of a license condition, (2) the applicant has passed the requisite written examination and operating test, and (3) the applicant meets the requirements of the Atomic Energy Act and the Commission's regulations. Pursuant to 10 CFR § 55.35 "Re-Applications," an applicant whose first application for a license has been denied because of failure to pass the written examination or operating test, or both, may file a new application two months after the date of denial, and must state the applicant's additional training since failing the examination and/or test, and must certify that the applicant is ready for re-examination.

As part of the application process, all applicants took and passed the generic fundamentals examination section of the written examination. Subsequently, on May 1, 2015, South Carolina Electric & Gas (SCE&G) submitted 14 NRC Form 398 forms. On May 22, 2015, 9 of these applicants took and passed the site-specific written examination. Therefore, each of the 9 applicants passed the requisite written examination.

On July 26, 2016, before the 9 applicants had taken the operating test, SCE&G requested that these 9 associated applications for a senior operator license be withdrawn. On August 3, 2016, the NRC responded to the withdrawal request by denying the applications and informed each of the applicants that they may re-apply and, as part of their reapplication, they may request an excusal for the site-specific section of the written exam they had already passed. On August 10, 2016, SCE&G submitted a new non-final (i.e., not signed) NRC Form 398 for 5 of those applicants indicating that they were re-applying for a senior operator license and requesting to be excused from the requisite written examination.

In the interest of efficiency, and because the applicants did not fail the written examination and did not take the operating test prior to the withdrawal, denial, and re-application, the NRC is treating the new NRC Forms 398, as supplements to their application submitted on May 1, 2015. The NRC has informed each applicant to disregard the NRC's letter dated August 3, 2016 wherein the NRC notified each of the applicants of denial and instructed them to follow the re-application process in § 55.35. The applicants were informed that because they did not fail any portion of the examination or tests, and therefore there was no basis for a two-month delay to take additional training.

Prior to making a final licensing decision, the NRC must receive the information required by 10 CFR § 55.31(a), including a finalized (signed) NRC Form 398. Please assure that final signed NRC Form 398 indicates in Box 4 "Type of Application" that each application is "new," and please remove any request for excusal from a written exam.

Please contact me at (404) 997-4662 (Internet E-mail: Eugene.Guthrie@nrc.gov) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

/RA/

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

Docket No.: 52-027
License No.: NPF-93

In the interest of efficiency, and because the applicants did not fail the written examination and did not take the operating test prior to the withdrawal, denial, and re-application, the NRC is treating the new NRC Forms 398, as supplements to their application submitted on May 1, 2015. The NRC has informed each applicant to disregard the NRC's letter dated August 3, 2016 wherein the NRC notified each of the applicants of denial and instructed them to follow the re-application process in § 55.35. The applicants were informed that because they did not fail any portion of the examination or tests, and therefore there was no basis for a two-month delay to take additional training.

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Eugene F. Guthrie, Chief
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X PUBLICLY AVAILABLE NON-PUBLICLY AVAILABLE SENSITIVE X NON-SENSITIVE
 ADAMS: Yes ACCESSION NUMBER: ML16257A484 X SUNSI REVIEW COMPLETE

OFFICE	RII:DRS	RII:DRS	RII:DRS	
SIGNATURE	<i>JHK</i>	<i>MAB</i>	<i>EFG</i>	
NAME	JKIRBY	MBATES	EGUTHRIE	
DATE	9/8/2016	9/8/2016	9/9/2016	
E-MAIL COPY?	NO	NO	NO	