



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

January 27, 2017

Mr. Thomas D. Ray
Site Vice President
Oconee Nuclear Station
Duke Energy Carolinas
7800 Rochester Highway
Seneca, SC 29672-0752

**SUBJECT: OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION – NRC OPERATOR LICENSE EXAMINATION
REPORT 05000269/2016302, 05000270/2016302, AND 05000287/2016302**

Dear Mr. Ray:

During the period of December 5 - 7, 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 and the written examination submittal with those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report. The written examination was administered by your staff on December 14, 2016.

All applicants passed both the operating test and written examination. There were no post-administration comments. A Simulator Fidelity Report is included in this report as Enclosure 2 to this letter.

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).

T. Ray

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If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact me at (404) 997-4551.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Gerald J. McCoy, Chief
Operations Branch 1
Division of Reactor Safety

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

Enclosures:

1. Report Details
2. Simulator Fidelity Report

T. Ray

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Gerald J. McCoy, Chief
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Docket Nos: 50-269, 50-270, 50-287
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Enclosures:

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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	RII:DRS	RII:DRS			
SIGNATURE	MAB7 VIA EMAIL	GJM1 FOR AXG1	MGD1 VIA EMAIL	GJM1			
NAME	MBATES	GOLDAU	DONITHAN	MCCOY			
DATE	1/ 25/2017	1/27/2017	1/25/2017	1/27/2017			
E-MAIL COPY?	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY DOCUMENT NAME: G:\OLEXAMS\OCONEE EXAMINATIONS\INITIAL EXAM 2016-302\CORRESPONDENCE\OCONEE 2016-302 EXAM REPORT.DOCX

US. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION II

Docket No.: 50-269, 50-270, 50-287

License No.: DPR-38, DPR-47, DPR-55

Report No.: 05000269/2016302, 05000270/2016302, 05000287/2016302

Licensee: Duke Energy Carolinas LLC

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

Location: Seneca, SC

Dates: Operating Test – December 5 - 7, 2016
Written Examination – December 14, 2016

Examiners: M. Bates, Chief Examiner, Senior Operations Engineer
A. Goldau, Operations Engineer
A. Toth, Operations Engineer
M. Donithan, Operations Engineer

Approved by: Gerald J. McCoy, Chief
Operations Branch 1
Division of Reactor Safety

SUMMARY

ER 05000269/2016302, 05000270/2016302, and 05000287/2016302; December 5 - 7, 2016 & December 14, 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 Reactor Operator (RO) examination, and written Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) examination submittals met the quality guidelines contained in NUREG-1021.

The NRC administered the operating tests during the period December 5 - 7, 2016. Members of the Oconee Nuclear Station training staff administered the written examination on December 14, 2016. Five ROs and three SROs were administered the exam. 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 December 5 - 7, 2016. The NRC examiners evaluated five Reactor Operator (RO) and three 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 December 14, 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.

All applicants passed both the operating test and written examination and were issued licenses.

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 submitted no post-examination comments. A copy of the final written examinations and answer keys, with all changes incorporated may be accessed not earlier than January 2, 2019, in the ADAMS system (ADAMS Accession Numbers ML17017A450, ML17017A493, ML17017A498).

4OA6 Meetings, Including Exit

Exit Meeting Summary

On December 7, 2016, the NRC examination team discussed generic issues associated with the operating test with Mr. E. Burchfield, Plant 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

E. Burchfield, Plant Manager
C. Dunton, Site Support Director
C. Wasik, Regulatory Affairs Manager
J. R. Steely, Training Manager
C. King, Assistant Operations Manager
T. Grant, Engineering General Manager
C. Rop, Operations Training Manager
T. Lawson, NRC Exam team supervisor
S. Lark, NRC Exam team
S. Bowen, NRC Exam team
T. Doss, Licensed Operator Requal Training Supervisor

SIMULATOR FIDELITY REPORT

Facility Licensee: Oconee Nuclear Station

Facility Docket No.: 05000269, 05000270, 05000287

Operating Test Administered: December 5 - 7, 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.