



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

REGION IV
1600 E. LAMAR BLVD
ARLINGTON, TX 76011-4511

March 30, 2017

Adam C. Heflin, President,
Chief Executive Officer,
and Chief Nuclear Officer
Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation
P.O. Box 411
Burlington, KS 66839

**SUBJECT: WOLF CREEK NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY – AMENDED NOTIFICATION
OF NRC INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSING EXAMINATION 05000482/2017301**

Dear Mr. Heflin:

In a telephone conversation on November 30, 2016, between Messrs. R. Meyer, Supervisor, Simulator and Examination Group, and C. Osterholtz, Chief Examiner, arrangements were made for the administration of licensing examinations at Wolf Creek Generating Station during the week of November 6, 2017.

As agreed during the telephone conversation, the NRC will prepare the examinations based on the guidelines in NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 10, and NUREG-1123, "Knowledge and Abilities Catalog for Nuclear Power Plant Operators," Revision 2, Supplement 1. Your staff will be given the opportunity to review the examinations during the week of, or before, September 11, 2017.

The NRC program office informed regional NRC staff that Revision 11 of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," was released on February 15, 2017. The Federal Register Notice that accompanied this release requires that any initial examination administered after August 15, 2017, shall use the most recent revision of this standard to develop and administer the examinations. Because NUREG-1122, "Knowledge and Abilities Catalog for Nuclear Power Plant Operators," Revision 3, is not released, the examination will continue to be developed using Revision 2, Supplement 1 of this catalog.

To meet the above schedule, it will be necessary for your staff to furnish the supporting reference materials identified in Attachment 3 to ES-201 by February 1, 2017. We request 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 reference materials, or the submittal of inadequate or incomplete materials, may cause the examinations to be rescheduled. In addition, your support for on-site validation of the examinations is required during the week of October 16, 2017.

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 shall capture all relevant simulator data (needed for the NRC to make licensing decisions) during the dynamic operating tests and shall retain this data until the examination results are final.

To permit timely NRC review and evaluation, your staff should submit preliminary reactor operator and senior reactor operator waiver or excusal requests (if any) (Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval number 3150-0090) at least 60 days before the first examination date (if able). Mr. C. Osterholtz should be contacted to determine the method for submission of the waiver and/or excusal requests. Preliminary reactor operator and senior reactor operator license applications (OMB approval number 3150-0090) and, medical certifications (OMB approval number 3150-0024) should be submitted at least 30 days before the first examination date. If the preliminary applications are not received at least 30 days before the examination date, a postponement may be necessary. Final, signed applications certifying that all training has been completed and requesting any waivers or excusals, as applicable, should be submitted at least 14 days before the first examination date.

Although the minimum guidelines for receiving waiver or excusal requests is 30 days before the first examination date (preliminary) and 14 days before the first examination date (final), the requests should be submitted as early in the process as possible (see the 60-day guideline, above). Resolutions resulting from verbal inquiries by the licensee to the NRC are not binding. Submittals addressing waivers and/or excusals should be in writing (i.e., on NRC Form 398, or as directed when Mr. C. Osterholtz is contacted to determine the method for submission). The NRC's final decision on whether to grant a waiver or excusal will be documented on the final (not preliminary) NRC Form 398 submitted for the applicant and will not be provided until the final application is submitted to the NRC.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement

This letter contains information collection requirements that are subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). These information collections were approved by the Office of Management and Budget, approval number 3150-0018.

The burden to the public for these mandatory information collections is estimated to average 400 hours per examination or response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the information collection. You may submit comments on any aspect of the information collection, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the FOIA, Privacy and Information Collections Branch (T-5 F53), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, or by electronic mail to INFCOLLECTS.RESOURCE@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.

Public Protection Notification

The NRC may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a request for information or an information collection requirement unless the requesting document displays a currently valid OMB control number.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390, "Public Inspections, Exemptions, Requests for Withholding," 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's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the Electronic Reading Room page of the NRC's public Web Site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Mr. Meyer 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. C. Osterholtz at 817-200-1269 or myself at 817-200-1159.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Vincent G. Gaddy, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No. 50-482
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cc: Electronic Distribution for Wolf Creek

WOLF CREEK NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY – AMENDED NOTIFICATION OF NRC
INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSING EXAMINATION 05000482/2017301 – March 30, 2017

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