



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I
2100 RENAISSANCE BLVD.
KING OF PRUSSIA, PA 19406-2713

April 3, 2017

Mr. Anthony J. Vitale
Site Vice President
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
Indian Point Energy Center
450 Broadway, GSB
P.O. Box 249
Buchanan, NY 10511-0249

SUBJECT: SENIOR REACTOR AND REACTOR OPERATOR INITIAL LICENSE
EXAMINATIONS – INDIAN POINT ENERGY CENTER, UNIT 3

Dear Mr. Vitale:

In a telephone conversation on March 31, 2017, between Mr. Peter Ott, Operations Engineer, and Mr. Charles Kocsis, Lead Examination Writer, arrangements were made for the administration of licensing examinations at Indian Point Energy Center, Unit 3 during the week of October 30, 2017. In addition, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will make an examination validation visit to your facility the week of October 2, 2017.

As agreed during the telephone conversation, your staff will prepare the examinations based on the guidelines in Revision 11 of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." The NRC's regional office will discuss with your staff any changes that might be necessary before the examinations are administered.

To meet the above schedule, it will be necessary for your staff to furnish the operating test outlines by June 2, 2017. The NRC staff will provide the written examination outline by April 18, 2017. The written examinations, operating tests, and the supporting reference materials identified in Attachment 3 of ES-201 will be due by August 17, 2017. Pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 55.40(b)(3), an authorized representative of the facility licensee shall approve the examinations and tests before they are submitted to the NRC for review and approval. All materials should be complete and ready-to-use.

We request that any personal, proprietary, sensitive unclassified, or Safeguards Information in your response be contained in a separate enclosure and appropriately marked. Delays in receiving the required materials, or the submittal of inadequate or incomplete materials, may cause the examinations to be cancelled or rescheduled.

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, along with any video and audio recordings of the dynamic operating tests, until the NRC

takes licensing action on all the applications and any adjudicatory actions on any hearing demands are complete.

Appendix E of 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.

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 possible). Contact Mr. David Silk to determine the method for submission of waiver or excusal requests. Preliminary reactor operator and senior reactor operator license applications (OMB control number 3150-0090) and medical certifications (OMB control 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 guidelines for receiving waiver or excusal requests call for at least 30 days before the first examination date (preliminary) and 14 days before the first examination date (final), the requests should be submitted as early as possible in the process (see the 60-day guideline above). Resolutions resulting from verbal inquiries by the licensee to the NRC are not binding. Submittals addressing waivers or excusals, or both, should be in writing (i.e., using NRC Form 398, "Personal Qualification Statement-Licensee," or as directed by Mr. David Silk when contacting him to determine the method for submission). The NRC will document its final decision on whether to grant a waiver or excusal on the final (not preliminary) NRC Form 398 submitted for the applicant. The NRC will not provide its decision until the final application is submitted to the agency.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement

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 the Office of Management and Budget, approval number 3150-0018.

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Public Protection Notification

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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390, "Public Inspections, Exemptions, Requesting for Withholding," of the Agency's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available

electronically for public inspection through the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible on the NRC's website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

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 one month advance notice of your celebration arrangements would be appreciated to plan our senior manager attendance and process the certificates.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Mr. Charles Kocsis 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. David Silk at (610) 337-5372 or Mr. Donald Jackson at (610) 337-5306.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Jimi T. Yerokun,
Deputy Director
Division of Reactor Safety

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