



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
REGION IV
1600 E. LAMAR BLVD
ARLINGTON, TX 76011-4511

May 12, 2017

Mr. Eric Larson, Site Vice President
Entergy Operations, Inc.
Grand Gulf Nuclear Station
P.O. Box 756
Port Gibson, MS 39150

**SUBJECT: GRAND GULF NUCLEAR STATION - NOTIFICATION OF NRC INITIAL
OPERATOR LICENSING EXAMINATION 05000416/2017302**

Dear Mr. Larson:

In a telephone conversation on April 26, 2017, between Messrs. S. Purdon, Superintendent, Initial Exam, and B. Larson, Chief Examiner, arrangements were made for the administration of licensing examinations at Grand Gulf Nuclear Station during the week of December 4, 2017.

As agreed during the telephone conversation, your staff will prepare the examinations based on the guidelines in NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 11, and NUREG-1123, "Knowledge and Abilities Catalog for Nuclear Power Plant Operators," Revision 2, Supplement 1. 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 examination outlines by July 7, 2017. The written examinations, operating tests, and supporting reference materials identified in Attachment 3 to ES-201 will be due by September 8, 2017. Pursuant to Title 10, Section 55.40(b)(3), of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR 55.40(b)(3)), an authorized representative of the facility licensee shall approve the outlines, examinations, and tests before they are submitted to the NRC for review and approval. All materials shall 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. Any delay in receiving the required examinations and 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 30, 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 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.

To permit timely NRC review and evaluation, your staff should submit preliminary operator and senior 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) by November 6, 2017. 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 by November 20, 2017.

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, which expires on June 30, 2019. The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 50 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; 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 10 CFR 2.390 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 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. Purdon 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. Larson at 817-200-1171 or myself at 817-200-1159.

Sincerely,

/RA/

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

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