



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

June 21, 2017

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

SUBJECT: GRAND GULF NUCLEAR STATION - NRC EXAMINATION
REPORT 05000416/2017301

Dear Mr. Larson:

On May 11, 2017, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed an initial operator license examination at Grand Gulf Nuclear Station. The enclosed report documents the examination results and licensing decisions. The preliminary examination results were discussed on May 11, 2017, with Mr. E. Garrison, Training Manager, and other members of your staff. A telephonic exit meeting was conducted on June 8, 2017, with Mr. R. Lidell, Operations Training Superintendent, who was provided the NRC licensing decisions.

The examination included the evaluation of seven applicants for upgrade senior reactor operator licenses. The license examiners determined that all seven applicants satisfied the requirements of 10 CFR Part 55, and the appropriate licenses have been issued. There were no post examination comments submitted by your staff. The enclosure contains details of this report.

No findings were identified during this examination.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice and Procedure," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's

Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Sincerely,

/RA/

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

Docket No. 50-416
License No. NPF-29

Enclosure:
Examination Report 05000416/2017301
w/Attachment: Supplemental Information

cc w/enclosure: Electronic Distribution

NRC EXAMINATION REPORT 05000416/2017301 – June 21, 2017

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 By: VGGaddy Yes No Publicly Available Sensitive NRC-002

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U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV

Docket: 050000416

License: NPF-29

Report: 05000416/2017301

Licensee: Entergy Operations, Inc.

Facility: Grand Gulf Nuclear Station

Location: P.O. Box 756
Port Gibson, MS 39150

Dates: April 10 through June 8, 2017

Inspectors: K. Clayton, Chief Examiner, Senior Operations Engineer
M. Hayes, Operations Engineer

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

Enclosure

SUMMARY

ER 05000416/2017301; 04/10/2017 – 06/08/2017; Grand Gulf Nuclear Station; Initial Operator Licensing Examination Report.

NRC examiners evaluated the competency of seven applicants for upgrade senior reactor operator licenses at Grand Gulf Nuclear Station.

The licensee developed the examinations using NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 10. The written examination was administered by the licensee on May 15, 2017. NRC examiners administered the operating tests on May 8–11, 2017.

The examiners determined that all seven of the applicants satisfied the requirements of 10 CFR Part 55, and the appropriate licenses have been issued.

A. NRC-Identified and Self-Revealing Findings

None.

B. Licensee-Identified Violations

None.

REPORT DETAILS

4. OTHER ACTIVITIES (OA)

4OA5 Other Activities (Initial Operator License Examination)

.1 License Applications

a. Scope

NRC examiners reviewed all license applications submitted to ensure each applicant satisfied relevant license eligibility requirements. Examiners also audited two of the license applications in detail to confirm that they accurately reflected the subject applicant's qualifications. This audit focused on the applicant's experience and on-the-job training.

b. Findings

No findings were identified.

.2 Examination Development

a. Scope

NRC examiners reviewed integrated examination outlines and draft examinations submitted by the licensee against the requirements of NUREG-1021. The NRC examination team conducted an onsite validation of the operating tests.

b. Findings

NRC examiners provided outline, draft examination, and post-validation comments to the licensee. The licensee satisfactorily completed comment resolution prior to examination administration.

NRC examiners determined the written examinations and operating tests initially submitted by the licensee were within the range of acceptability expected for a proposed examination.

.3 Operator Knowledge and Performance

a. Scope

On May 15, 2017, the licensee proctored the administration of the written examinations to all seven applicants. The licensee staff graded the written examinations, analyzed the results, and presented their analysis to the NRC on May 17, 2017.

The NRC examination team administered the various portions of the operating tests to all applicants on May 8–11, 2017.

b. Findings

No findings were identified.

All applicants passed the written examination and all parts of the operating tests. The final written examinations and post examination analysis may be accessed in the ADAMS system under the accession numbers noted in the attachment. There were no post examination comments as indicated in the licensee submittal.

The examination team noted one generic weakness on the operating test associated with applicant performance on one of the administrative job performance measures for protective action recommendations during a General Emergency. The applicants displayed a knowledge weakness in determining the appropriate sectors for evacuation and the licensee wrote Condition Report CR-GGN-2017-05115 to address this issue. The licensee documented one generic weakness on the written examination for Question 60 pertaining to differences in fuel zone reactor water level with and without density compensation. The weakness was determined to be a knowledge weakness and the licensee wrote Condition Report CR-GGN-2017-05115 to address this issue. Copies of all individual examination reports were sent to the facility training manager for evaluation and determination of appropriate remedial training.

.4 Simulation Facility Performance

a. Scope

The NRC examiners observed simulator performance with regard to plant fidelity during examination validation and administration.

b. Findings

No findings were identified.

.5 Examination Security

a. Scope

The NRC examiners reviewed examination security for examination development during both the onsite preparation week and examination administration week for compliance with 10 CFR 55.49 and NUREG-1021. Plans for simulator security and applicant control were reviewed and discussed with licensee personnel.

b. Findings

No findings were identified.

40A6 Meetings, Including Exit

Exit Meeting Summary

The chief examiner presented the preliminary examination results to Mr. E. Garrison, Training Manager, and other members of the staff on May 11, 2017. A telephonic exit was conducted on June 8, 2017, between Mr. K. Clayton, Chief Examiner, and Mr. R. Lidell, Operations Training Superintendent. The licensee did not identify any information or materials used during the examination as proprietary.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

KEY POINTS OF CONTACT

Licensee Personnel

G. Hawkins, Director, Regulatory Affairs and Performance Improvement
B. Wertz, Senior Manager, Operations
R. Meyer, Shift Manager, Operations
F. Weaver, Shift Manager, Operations Training
P. Williams, Manager, Operations Training
E. Garrison, Training Manager
R. Liddell, Training Superintendent, Operations
S. Sweet, Engineer, Regulatory Assurance
S. Purdin, Examination Superintendent
M. Rasch, Nuclear Training Instructor
D. Cooper, Examination Writer
S. Reeves, Examination Writer

NRC Personnel

M. Young, Senior Resident Inspector
N. Day, Resident Inspector

ADAMS DOCUMENTS REFERENCED

Accession No. ML17138A313 – FINAL WRITTEN EXAMS (Do not release Until May 15, 2019)
Accession No. ML17138A311 – FINAL OPERATING TEST (Do not release Until May 15, 2019)
Accession No. ML17138A312 – POST EXAM ANALYSIS