



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
1600 EAST LAMAR BOULEVARD
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4511

January 8, 2018

THIS LETTER DISTRIBUTED TO THE FOLLOWING DOCKET NUMBERS:

Arkansas Nuclear One, Units 1 and 2, Docket Nos.: 50-313; 50-368
Callaway Plant, Docket No.: 50-483
Columbia Generating Station, Docket No.: 50-397
Comanche Peak Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2, Docket Nos.: 50-445; 50-446
Cooper Nuclear Station, Docket No.: 50-298
Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2, Docket Nos.: 50-275; 50-323
Grand Gulf Nuclear Station, Docket No.: 50-416
Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1, 2, and 3, Docket Nos.: 50-528; 50-529; 50-530
River Bend Station, Docket No.: 50-458
South Texas Project Electric Generating Station, Units 1 and 2, Docket Nos.: 50-498; 50-499
Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3, Docket No.: 50-382
Wolf Creek Generating Station, Docket No.: 50-482

SUBJECT: ANNOUNCEMENT OF GENERIC FUNDAMENTALS EXAMINATION
SECTION OF THE WRITTEN OPERATOR LICENSING EXAMINATION
FOR 2018

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) plans to administer the generic fundamentals examination (GFE) section of the written operator licensing examination on the following dates during this calendar year:

March 7, 2018
September 5, 2018

To register personnel to take the GFE, an authorized representative of your facility may submit a letter to Kriss Kennedy, Regional Administrator, Region IV, with a copy addressed, as follows:

Chief, Operator Licensing Branch
Mail Stop O 13 H16M
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Alternatively, a **voluntary** online registration portal will be available the week of January 22, 2018 and can be used by an authorized representative of your facility to request administration of the GFE to individuals. More information on using this voluntary registration process can be found at <https://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operator-licensing.html>. Use of this registration process will eliminate the need to submit a letter.

Under 10 CFR 55.31(a)(3), in order for the NRC written examination and operating test to be administered to an applicant for an operator license, the applicant shall submit a written request

from an authorized representative of the facility licensee by which the applicant will be employed. As stated above, use of the online registration portal would satisfy this requirement. The NRC permits a request for administration of the GFE section of the written examination to be made and granted prior to the applicant's successful completion the facility licensee's requirements to be licensed as an operator or senior operator and prior to the facility licensee's certification of the need for an operator or a senior operator to perform assigned duties. However, the facility licensee should only request administration of the GFE section of the written examination for individuals who will have completed fundamentals training by the date of the examination.

The submittal should identify the individuals who will take the examination. The submittal should also identify the personnel who will have access to the examinations, and will be responsible for examination security, before they are administered (e.g., proctors) and include the address and name of the individual to whom the examinations are to be sent.

To allow the NRC to assign docket numbers, both the NRC Regional Administrator and the Chief, Operator Licensing Branch, should receive your letter, or online registration, at least **30 calendar days before each desired examination date** shown above. A sample registration letter is enclosed.

Copies of the administered BWR and PWR GFEs and their answer keys will be available for review in the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) immediately after administration of the second subsequent GFE. At that time, the NRC will also update its GFE Web Page, <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operator-licensing/generic-fundamentals-examinations.html>.

If you have any questions concerning this examination, please contact Jacob Dolecki at 301-415-2947 or at Jacob.Dolecki@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Vincent Gaddy, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Enclosure:
Sample Registration Letter

cc:
Electronic Distribution to all Region IV Sites

Mr. Dennis Kilpatrick, Training Manager
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17265 River Road
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Ms. Jennifer Yunk
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Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation
P.O. Box 411
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Sample Registration Letter

Kriss Kennedy
Regional Administrator
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory
Commission Region IV
1600 East Lamar Blvd.
Arlington, TX 76011-4511

Dear (Name):

(Facility name) requests approval from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to have the following (number) individuals take the (BWR or PWR) generic fundamentals examination (GFE) section of the written operator licensing examination to be administered on (date):

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Previous Docket No.</u>
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(Insert the name, date of birth, and previous Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR) Part 55 Docket Number (if applicable) for each person.)

The registrants should have completed the generic fundamentals portion of the training program by the examination date and are expected to meet all other requirements of 10 CFR 55.31 in the future.

The following personnel will have access to the examinations before they are administered:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>
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(Insert the name and title of each person who will have access to the examinations before they are administered (e.g., proctors)).

Please address the examinations to the **overnight mail** address, as follows (note that home addresses are not acceptable):

(Name, Title)
(Street address)
(City, State ZIP code)

If you have any questions, please contact (facility contact name) at (telephone number).

Sincerely,

(Name, title)

cc: Chief, Operator Licensing Branch, NRR

Enclosure

ANNOUNCEMENT OF GENERIC FUNDAMENTALS EXAMINATION SECTION OF THE WRITTEN OPERATOR LICENSING EXAMINATION FOR 2018 – January 8, 2018

Electronic distribution by RIV w/o enclosure:

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ADAMS Accession No. ML18009A985

X SUNSI Review		ADAMS		X Publicly Available		X Non-Sensitive		Keyword:	
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SIGNATURE	/RA/	/RA/							
DATE	1/8/18	1/8/18							

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