



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
REGION II
245 PEACHTREE CENTER AVENUE NE, SUITE 1200
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-1257

January 10, 2018

THIS LETTER DISTRIBUTED TO THE FOLLOWING DOCKET NUMBERS:

Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Docket Nos. 50-259, 50-260 and 50-296
Brunswick Steam Electric Plant, Docket Nos. 50-325 and 50-324
Catawba Nuclear Station, Docket Nos. 50-413 and 50-414
Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant, Docket Nos. 50-348 and 50-364
Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant, Docket No. 50-400
E. I. Hatch Nuclear Plant, Docket Nos. 50-321 and 50-366
McGuire Nuclear Station, Docket Nos. 50-369 and 50-370
North Anna Power Station, Docket Nos. 50-338 and 50-339
Oconee Nuclear Station, Docket Nos. 50-269, 50-270 and 50-287
H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant, Docket No. 50-261
St. Lucie Nuclear Plant, Docket Nos. 50-335 and 50-389
Sequoyah Nuclear Plant, Docket Nos. 50-327 and 50-328
Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station, Docket No. 50-395
Surry Power Station, Docket Nos. 50-280 and 50-281
Turkey Point Nuclear Plant, Docket Nos. 50-250 and 50-251
Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Docket Nos. 50-424, 50-425, 52-025 and 52-026
Watts Bar Nuclear Plant, Docket Nos. 50-390 and 50-391

SUBJECT: ANNUAL LETTER - GENERIC FUNDAMENTALS EXAMINATION (GFE)
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 for the 2018 calendar year:

Date of GFE exams for 2018	Date registration letters from facilities due to NRC
March 7, 2018	February 6, 2018
September 5, 2018	August 6, 2018

To register personnel to take the GFE, an authorized representative of your facility must submit a letter to Ms. Catherine Haney, Regional Administrator, Region II, 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/

Gerald J. McCoy, Chief
Operations Branch 1
Division of Reactor Safety

Enclosure: As Stated

cc w/encl: (See Page 3)

cc w/encl:
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(cc w/encl cont'd)

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Waynesboro, GA 30830

ANNUAL LETTER - GENERIC FUNDAMENTALS EXAMINATION (GFE) SECTION OF THE WRITTEN OPERATOR LICENSING EXAMINATION FOR 2018

Distribution:

N. Salgado, IOLB, NRR
OLAs, RII, DRS

PUBLICLY AVAILABLE

NON-PUBLICLY AVAILABLE

SENSITIVE

NON-SENSITIVE

ADAMS: Yes

SUNSI REVIEW COMPLETE FORM 665 ATTACHED

ACCESSION NUMBER: **ML18016A687**

OFFICE	RII:DRS	RII:DRS				
SIGNATURE	JHK	GMCCOY				
NAME	JKIRBY	GMCCOY				
DATE	1/10 /2018	1/10/2018				
E-MAIL COPY?	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO

DOCUMENT NAME: G:\OLEXAMS\#GFE EXAMS\2018 GFE EXAMS\#1 GFE ANNUAL LETTER FOR FY 2018.DOCX

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

SAMPLE REGISTRATION LETTER

Catherine Haney
Regional Administrator
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II, Suite 1200
245 Peachtree Center Ave., NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-1257

Dear Ms. Haney:

(Facility name) requests approval from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to have the following (number) individuals take the (specify 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
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 and Training Branch, NRR
G. McCoy, DRS, RII
E. Guthrie, DRS, RII

Enclosure