

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I

Docket Nos: 50-272; 50-311

Report Nos: 50-272/97-13(OL) & 50-311/97-13(OL)

Licensee: Public Service Enterprise Group

Facility: Salem Nuclear Generating Station

Date: May 29, 1997

Examiner: Paul Bissett, Sr. Operations Engineer

Approved By: Glenn Meyer, Chief, Operator Licensing and
Human Performance Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Inspection Report 50-272/97-13(OL) & 50-311/97-01(OL)

On May 29, 1997, the NRC administered an initial licensing simulator retake examination to one senior reactor operator instant (SROI) candidate at the Salem training facility. The two simulator examination scenarios had been developed by the facility's training department in accordance with NRC guidance using NUREG-1021 "Operator Licensing Examiner Standards," Rev. 7 and Generic Letter 95-06. The NRC approved, administered, and graded the simulator examination.

Operations

The SROI candidate passed his simulator retake examination. The facility training staff did a good job in developing and subsequently validating the two simulator scenarios.

Report Details

I. Operations

05 Operator Training and Qualification

05.1 Examination Development

a. Inspection Scope

The Salem training staff developed the two simulator exam scenarios and submitted these proposed exams for NRC review and approval. The NRC reviewed the proposed scenarios and subsequently validated and approved them at the Salem training simulator prior to the administration of the exam.

b. Observations and Findings

The simulator scenarios were well thought out and well developed. All attributes were covered ensuring that the candidate would be evaluated against all competencies described in NUREG-1021.

c. Conclusions

The facility did an overall good job of developing the retake exam scenarios.

05.2 Exam Results

a. Scope

An initial retake licensing exam was administered to one instant senior reactor operator candidate. The exam consisted of two simulator scenarios. The written and walkthrough portions of the exam were waived since the candidate had previously passed these portions of the exam in January 1997.

b. Observations and Findings

The candidate passed his simulator retake exam. One minor weakness was noted when the candidate was the SRO. In this instance, the candidate did not maintain a big picture of plant conditions and accepted flow information that was obviously inconsistent with overall plant conditions.

The NRC examiner noted that the SRO held frequent, effective crew briefings. These briefings were often held during opportune times and were expedient and to the point.

c. Conclusions

The SROI candidate satisfactorily passed his simulator exam and combined with having previously passed the written and walkthrough portions of the exam, is now eligible for issuance of an SRO license once he has completed five reactivity manipulations on one of the Salem units.

Exam Summary Results

Exam Section	SRO Pass/Fail
Written	Waived
Simulator	Passed
Walk-through	Waived
Overall results	1/0

X1 Exit Meeting

The NRC expressed its appreciation for the facility examination development and validation efforts and facility accommodation of the needs of the examination process. Strengths and weaknesses observed during the simulator exam and exam development were discussed during the exit meeting held on June 3, 1997.

Also, there were no simulator fidelity issues identified by the examiner during this exam.

PARTIAL LIST OF PERSONS CONTACTED

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