



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

REGION III  
2443 WARRENVILLE ROAD, SUITE 210  
LISLE, ILLINOIS 60532-4352

January 29, 2019

Mr. Bryan C. Hanson  
Senior VP, Exelon Generation Company, LLC  
President and CNO, Exelon Nuclear  
4300 Winfield Road  
Warrenville, IL 60555

**SUBJECT: LASALLE COUNTY STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2—NRC INITIAL LICENSE  
EXAMINATION REPORT 05000373/2018301; 05000374/2018301**

Dear Mr. Hanson:

On December 11, 2018, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed the initial operator licensing examination process for license applicants employed at your LaSalle County Station, Units 1 and 2. The enclosed report documents the results of those examinations. Preliminary observations noted during the examination process were discussed on November 16, 2018, with Mr. W. Trafton and other members of your staff. An exit meeting was conducted by telephone on December 20, 2018, between Mr. W. Trafton of your staff, and Mr. C. Zoia, Chief Operator Licensing Examiner, to review the proposed final grading of the written examination for the license applicants.

The NRC examiners administered an initial license examination operating test during the weeks of November 5, 2018, and November 12, 2018. The written examination was administered by training department personnel on November 16, 2018. Eight Senior Reactor Operator and six Reactor Operator applicants were administered license examinations. The results of the examinations were finalized on January 3, 2019. One applicant failed one or more sections of the administered examination and was issued a proposed license denial letter. Thirteen applicants passed all sections of their respective examinations; seven were issued senior operator licenses and six were issued operator licenses.

The written examination and other related written examination documentation will be withheld from public disclosure for 24 months per your request. However, since one applicant received a proposed license denial letter because of a written examination grade that was less than 80.0 percent, the applicant was provided a copy of the administered written examination. For examination security purposes, your staff should consider that written examination uncontrolled and exposed to the public.

This letter, its enclosure, and your response (if any) will be made available for public inspection and copying at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> and at the NRC Public Document Room in accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, Part 2.390, "Public Inspections, Exemptions, Requests for Withholding."

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Randal Baker, Acting Chief  
Operations Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-373; 50-374  
License Nos. NPF-11; NPF-18

Enclosures:

1. OL Examination Report 05000373/2018301;  
05000374/2018301
2. Simulation Facility Fidelity Report

cc: Distribution via LISTSERV®  
M. Martin, Training Director,  
LaSalle County Station

Letter to Bryan C. Hanson from Randal Baker dated January 29, 2019.

SUBJECT: LASALLE COUNTY STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2—NRC INITIAL LICENSE  
EXAMINATION REPORT 05000373/2018301; 05000374/2018301

DISTRIBUTION:

Aida Rivera-Varona  
RidsNrrDorLpl3  
RidsNrrPMLaSalle  
RidsNrrDirslrib Resource  
Darrell Roberts  
John Giessner  
Jamnes Cameron  
Allan Barker  
DRPIII  
DRSIII  
Caroline Randiki  
Colleen Schmidt

ADAMS Accession Number: ML19029B258

OFFICE	RIII	RIII			
NAME	CZoia:jw	RBaker			
DATE	01/28/19	01/29/19			

**OFFICIAL RECORD COPY**

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION III

Docket Nos: 50-373; 05-374

License Nos: NPF-11; NPF-18

Report No: 05000373/2016301; 05000374/2016301

Enterprise Identifier: I-2018-003-0030

Licensee: Exelon Generation Company, LLC

Facility: LaSalle County Station, Units 1 and 2

Location: Marseilles, IL

Dates: November 5, 2018, through December 11, 2018

Examiners: C. Zoia, Senior Operations Engineer – Chief Examiner  
R. Baker, Senior Operations Engineer – Examiner  
D. Reeser, Operations Engineer – Examiner  
G. Roach, Senior Operations Engineer – Examiner

Approved by: R. Baker, Acting Chief  
Operations Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

## **SUMMARY**

Examination Report 05000440/2018301; 11/05/2018-12/11/2018; Exelon Generation Company, LLC; LaSalle County Station; Units 1 and 2; Initial License Examination Report.

The announced initial operator licensing examination was conducted by regional Nuclear Regulatory Commission examiners in accordance with the guidance of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 11.

### Examination Summary

Thirteen of fourteen applicants passed all sections of their respective examinations. Seven applicants were issued a senior operator licenses and six applicants were issued operator licenses. One applicant failed one or more sections of the administered examination and was issued a proposed license denial. (Section 4OA5.1).

## REPORT DETAILS

### 40A5 Other Activities

#### .1 Initial Licensing Examinations

##### a. Examination Scope

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) examiners and members of the facility licensee's staff used the guidance prescribed in NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 11, to develop, validate, administer, and grade the written examination and operating test. The written examination outlines were prepared by the NRC staff and were transmitted to the facility licensee's staff. Members of the facility licensee's staff prepared the operating test outlines and developed the written examination and operating test. The NRC examiners validated the proposed examination during the week of October 1, 2018, with the assistance of members of the facility licensee's staff. During the onsite validation week, the examiners audited two license applications for accuracy. The NRC examiners, with the assistance of members of the facility licensee's staff, administered the operating test, consisting of job performance measures and dynamic simulator scenarios, during the period of November 5, 2018, through November 14, 2018. The facility licensee administered the written examination on November 16, 2018.

##### b. Findings

###### (1) Written Examination

The NRC examiners determined that the written examination, as proposed by the licensee, was within the range of acceptability expected for a proposed examination. Less than 20 percent of the proposed examination questions were determined to be unsatisfactory and required modification or replacement.

All changes made to the proposed written examination, were made in accordance with NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," and documented on Form ES-401-9, "Written Examination Review Worksheet."

On December 11, 2018, the licensee submitted documentation noting that there were no post-examination comments for consideration by the NRC examiners when grading the written examination. The written examination outlines and worksheets, the proposed written examination (ADAMS Accession Number ML17164A413), as well as the final as-administered examination and answer key (ADAMS Accession Number ML17164A409), will be available, in 24 months, electronically in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of NRC's Agencywide Document Access and Management System (ADAMS).

The NRC examiners graded the written examination on December 4, 2018, and conducted a review of each missed question to determine the accuracy and validity of the examination questions.

(2) Operating Test

The NRC examiners determined that the operating test, as originally proposed by the licensee, was within the range of acceptability expected for a proposed examination. All changes made to the operating test were made in accordance with NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," and were documented on Form ES-301-7, "Operating Test Review Worksheet." The operating test outlines and worksheets, the proposed operating test and worksheets, as well as the final Form ES-301-7, and the final as-administered operating test, will be available electronically in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of NRC's ADAMS, on August 13, 2020. (ADAMS Accession Numbers ML17164A411, ML17164A413, ML17164A408, and ML17164A409, respectively.)

On December 11, 2018, the licensee submitted documentation noting that there were no post-examination facility licensee comments, and no post-examination applicant comments for consideration by the NRC examiners when grading the operating test.

The NRC examiners completed operating test grading on January 3, 2019.

(3) Examination Results

Eight applicants at the Senior Reactor Operator level and six applicants at the Reactor Operator level were administered written examinations and operating tests.

- Thirteen applicants passed all portions of their examinations and were issued their respective operating licenses on January 3, 2019.
- One applicant failed one or more sections of the administered examination and was issued a proposed license denial.

.2 Examination Security

a. Scope

The NRC examiners reviewed and observed the licensee's implementation of examination security requirements during the examination validation and administration to assure compliance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, Part 55.49, "Integrity of Examinations and Tests." The examiners used the guidelines provided in NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," to determine acceptability of the licensee's examination security activities.

b. Findings

None

4OA6 Management Meetings

.1 Debrief

The chief examiner presented the examination team's preliminary observations and findings on November 16, 2018, to Mr. W. Trafton, Site Vice President, and other members of the LaSalle County Station staff.

.2 Exit Meeting

The chief examiner conducted an exit meeting on December 20, 2018, with Mr. W. Trafton, Site Vice President, and other members of the LaSalle County Station, Units 1 and 2, staff by telephone. The NRC's final disposition of the written exam grading was disclosed and discussed with during the telephone discussion. The examiners asked the licensee whether any of the material used to develop or administer the examination should be considered proprietary. No proprietary or sensitive information was identified during the examination or debrief/exit meetings.

ATTACHMENT: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION



## **SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

### **KEY POINTS OF CONTACT**

#### Licensee

J. Van Fleet, Operations Director  
M. Martin, Training Director  
D. Fuson, Operations Training Manager  
J. Messina, Site Exam Representative  
C. Betken, Exam Author  
T. Messner, Exam Author  
D. Murray, Regulatory Assurance Manager

#### U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

W. Schaup, Senior Resident Inspector  
J. Havertape, Resident Inspector  
C. Zoia, Chief Examiner  
R. Baker, Examiner  
D. Reeser, Examiner  
G. Roach, Examiner

### **ITEMS OPENED, CLOSED, AND DISCUSSED**

#### Opened, Closed, and Discussed

None

### **LIST OF ACRONYMS USED**

ADAMS	Agencywide Document Access and Management System
NRC	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

## SIMULATION FACILITY FIDELITY REPORT

Facility Licensee: LaSalle County Station, Units 1 and 2

Facility Docket Nos: 50-373; 50-374

Operating Tests Administered: November 5, 2018, through November 14, 2018

The following documents observations made by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission examination team during the initial operator license examination. These observations do not constitute audit or inspection findings and are not, without further verification and review, indicative of non-compliance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, Part 55.45(b). These observations do not affect U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission certification or approval of the simulation facility other than to provide information which may be used in future evaluations. No licensee action is required in response to these observations.

During the conduct of the simulator portion of the operating tests, the following items were observed:

ITEM	DESCRIPTION
SWR 0134795	During one scenario, a spurious annunciator alarmed causing a minor disruption. The alarm was quickly addressed, and no further incidents occurred.