

JAN 9 1990

In Reply Refer To:
Docket: 50-285

Omaha Public Power District
ATTN: Kenneth J. Morris, Division Manager
Nuclear Operations
444 South 16th Street Mall
Omaha, Nebraska 68102-2247

Gentlemen:

Generic Letter 89-17 (Planned Administrative Changes to the NRC Operator Licensing Written Examination Process) dated September 6, 1989, discussed the implementation of the Generic Fundamentals Examination Section (GFES) of the written operator licensing examination. The generic letter indicated that a forthcoming change to the Operator Licensing Examiner Standards (NUREG-1021) would further define the registration and examination process. In response to feedback (from pilot test participants, facility training personnel, NUMARC representatives, and NRC management), the administration of the GFES will conform to the following registration and examination process guidelines, which will be included in the next revision of NUREG-1021, "NRC Operator Licensing Examiner Standards."

To register for the GFES, an authorized facility licensee representative must submit a nominating letter to the regional administrator listing the names of the candidates to take either the PWR or BWR examination. The nominating letter shall include the candidates date of birth and any previous Part 55 docket number. The nominating letter must also certify that the candidates have completed fundamentals training and are enrolled in a facility licensee training program leading to either an operator or senior operator license. The letter should be submitted approximately 30 days prior to the examination date in order to allow each NRC regional office to acquire an examination room of sufficient size to accommodate the examination. A sample registration letter is enclosed.

The GFES will consist of 100 multiple choice questions; the time to complete the examination will be set at 2 1/2 hours and the passing grade will be 80 percent.

The application for license (NRC Form-398) must give the date that the applicant passed either a GFES or an NRC administered operator licensing written examination, administered on or after February 1, 1982, which resulted in the applicant receiving a license.

RIV:C:OLS
JLPellet/lb
1/4/90

DRS
LJCallan
1/8/90

DRS
SOCollins
1/7/90

IE42
1/1

9001170447 900109
PDR ADOCK 05000285
V PDC

The written Site-Specific Examination Section (SSES) will consist of questions related to the categories for knowledge and abilities outlined in the Examiners' Handbook for Developing Operator Licensing Examinations (NUREG/BR-0122) not tested by the GFES. The SSES will consist of a minimum of 75 percent objective questions and a maximum of 25 percent short answer/short essay type questions in accordance with the guidance described in Revision 5 to the Examiner Standards (NUREG-1021). The written SSES will be constructed and graded as a single examination, requiring a passing grade of 80 percent. Because the written SSES will no longer have specific sections, the requirement to obtain a minimum of 70 percent in each section has been deleted.

Sincerely,
Original Signed By:
Samuel J. Collins

Samuel J. Collins, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Enclosure: (as stated)

cc w/enclosure:

LeBoeuf, Lamb, Leiby & MacRae
ATTN: Harry H. Voigt, Esq.
1333 New Hampshire Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20036

Washington County Board
of Supervisors
ATTN: Jack Jensen, Chairman
Blair, Nebraska 68008

Combustion Engineering, Inc.
ATTN: Charles B. Brinkman, Manager
Washington Nuclear Operations
12300 Twinbrook Parkway, Suite 330
Rockville, MD 20852

Department of Health
ATTN: Harold Borchert, Director
Division of Radiological Health
301 Centennial Mall, South
P.O. Box 95007
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509

Fort Calhoun Station
ATTN: G. R. Peterson, Manager
P.O. Box 399
Fort Calhoun, Nebraska 68023

Omaha Public Power District

- 3 -

Fort Calhoun Station
ATTN: M. P. Lazar, Supervisor
Operations and Technical Training
P.O. Box 399
Fort Calhoun, Nebraska 68023

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Resident Inspector
P.O. Box 309
Fort Calhoun, Nebraska 68023

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Regional Administrator, Region IV
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000
Arlington, Texas 76011

bcc w/enclosure:
bcc to DMB (IE42)

bcc distrib. by RIV:

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| R. D. Martin | Resident Inspector |
| DRSS-FRPS | Section Chief (DRP/B) |
| MIS System | RIV File |
| DRP | RSTS Operator |
| Project Engineer (DRP/B) | |
| A. Bournia, NRR Project Manager (MS: 13-D-18) | |
| DRS (J. L. Pellet Reading File) | J. L. Pellet |
| E. Himes | L. Miller, TTC |
| Licensee & Debt Collection Branch, ATTN: Leah Tremper | |

Enclosure

Sample Registration Letter

(Name),
Regional Administrator
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region (I, II, III, IV, V)
Street Address
City, State Zip Code

Dear Mr. (Name):

(Facility Name) requests to have the (number) candidates listed below take the Generic Fundamentals Examination Section of the operator licensing examination to be administered (Date (October, February, or June) (year)). All candidates are enrolled in the (Facility Name) (operator training program name (i.e., hot license class)) and will have completed the Generic Fundamentals portion of the program by the examination administration date.

| (Candidate 1 Name) | (BWR or PWR) | Date of birth | Any previous 55-Docket |
|------------------------|--------------|---------------|------------------------|
| (Candidate 2 Name) | " | " | " |
| (Candidate 3 Name) | " | " | " |
| (Candidate 4 Name) | " | " | " |
| (Candidate 5 Name) | " | " | " |
| (Candidate 6 Name) | " | " | " |
| (Candidate . . . Name) | " | " | " |

Sincerely,

(Name), (Title)
(Facility)