

JAN 9 1990

In Reply Refer To:
Docket: 50-458

Gulf States Utilities
ATTN: James C. Deddens
Senior Vice President (RBNG)
P.O. Box 220
St. Francisville, Louisiana 70775

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
1/7/90

DRP
SJCcollins
1/8/90

JEH
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PDR ADOCK 05000458
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:
Gulf States Utilities Company
ATTN: J. E. Booker, Manager-
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P.O. Box 2951
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Conner and Wetterhahn
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Gulf States Utilities Company
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Gulf States Utilities

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Department of Environmental Quality
ATTN: William H. Spell, Administrator
Nuclear Energy Division
P.O. Box 14690
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70898

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Resident Inspector
P. O. Box 1051
St. Francisville, Louisiana 70775

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Regional Administrator, Region IV
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bcc w/enclosure:
bcc to DMB (IE42)
bcc distrib. by RIV:

R. D. Martin
DRP

Resident Inspector
Section Chief (DRP/C)

MIS System
DRSS-FRPS

Project Engineer (DRP/C)

RIV File

W. Paulson, 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)