



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

PRR

SEP 24 1992

Docket No. 50-131

Mr. R. L. Turcotte, Director
Veterans Affairs Medical Center
4101 Woolworth Avenue
Omaha, Nebraska 68105

Dear Mr. Turcotte:

In a telephone conversation between Mr. Paul Doyle and Mr. Blotcky arrangements were made for the performance of requalification examinations at the VA Hospital Facility. The examination visit which is scheduled for November 23, 1992, will be performed in accordance with Operator Licensing Standard ES-606. You should have a copy of this standard.

For the examiners to adequately prepare for this visit, it will be necessary for the facility to furnish the approved items listed in Enclosure 1, "Reference Material Requirements" at least 60 days prior to the examination date to the following address:

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555
ATTN: James L. Caldwell, Mail Stop 10/D/22

Failure to supply the reference material as required by Enclosure 1 may result in postponement of the examination. The Chief Examiner may request that the facility submit a proposed examination for use during the examination week in addition to the material requirements of Enclosure 1. Submission of a proposed examination, even if requested, is optional. However, if a proposed examination is submitted, those personnel participating in its development may become subject to the security restrictions described below.

The facility management is responsible for providing adequate space and accommodations to properly develop and conduct the examinations. Enclosure 2, "Administration of Requalification Examinations," describes our requirements for developing and conducting the examinations. Enclosure 3, contains the "NRC Rules and Guidance for Examinees" that will be in effect during the administration of the written examination. The facility management is responsible for ensuring that all operators are aware of these rules.

This request was previously covered by Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Clearance Number 3150-0101, which expired May 31, 1992. A request for a clearance extension has been submitted to OMB and is expected to be granted.

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ENCLOSURE 1

REFERENCE MATERIAL REQUIREMENTS

Test items to support all aspects of the requalification examination must be provided to the NRC 60 days prior to the examination date, as specified in Enclosure 1 to ES-606.

1. Existing learning objectives, students handouts and lesson plans (including training manuals, plant orientation manual, system descriptions, reactor theory, thermodynamics, etc.)

Training materials should include all substantive written material used for preparing applicants for initial RO and SRO licensing. The written material should include learning objectives if available and the details presented during lectures, rather than outlines. Training materials should be identified, bound, and indexed. Training materials which include the following should be provided:

System descriptions including descriptions of all operationally relevant flow paths, components, controls and instrumentation. System training material should draw parallels to the actual procedures used for operating and applicable system.

Complete and operationally useful descriptions of all safety-system interactions, secondary interactions under emergency and abnormal conditions, including consequences of anticipated operator error, maintenance error, and equipment failure.

Training material used to clarify and strengthen understanding of emergency operating procedures.

2. Complete Procedure Index (including temporary procedures).
3. All administrative procedures as applicable to reactor operation or safety.
4. All integrated plant procedures, normal or general operating procedures and procedures for experiments.
5. All emergency procedures, emergency instructions, abnormal or special procedures.
6. Standing orders or procedures changed by reactor supervision and important orders or changes that are safety related and may supersede the regular procedures.
7. Applicable procedures (procedures that are run frequently).
8. Fuel-handling and core-loading procedures and initial core-loading procedures, when appropriate.
9. Any annunciator/alarm procedures, as applicable.

10. Radiation protection manual, radiation control manual or procedures.
11. Emergency plan implementing procedures.
12. Safety Analysis Report, Technical Specifications and interpretations, if available.
13. System operating procedures, including experiments.
14. Piping and instrumentation diagrams, electrical single-line diagrams, or flow diagrams, as applicable.
15. Technical Data Book, and/or plant curve information as used by operators and facility precautions, limitations, and set points for the facility.
16. Questions and answers specific to the facility training program which may be used in the written or operating examinations (voluntary by facility licensee)
17. Additional material as requested by the examiners to develop examinations that meet the requirements of the Non-power Reactor Examiner Standards and Regulations.

The above reference material should be approved final issues and so marked. If a facility has not finalized some of the material, the Chief Examiner should verify with the facility that the most complete, up-to-date material is available and that agreement has been reached with the licensee for limiting changes before the administration of the examination.

ENCLOSURE 2

ADMINISTRATION OF REQUALIFICATION EXAMINATIONS

1. The reference material will be reviewed by the chief examiner.
2. A single room shall be provided for the written examination. The location of this room and supporting rest room facilities shall be such as to prevent contact with all other facility and/or contractor personnel for the duration of the examination.
3. Minimum spacing is required to ensure examination integrity and will be evaluated by the chief examiner. Minimum spacing consists of one examinee per table and a 3-foot space between tables. No wall charts, models, and/or other training materials shall be present in the examination room.
4. Copies of reference material for the written examination shall be provided for each examinee. The reference material will consist of Technical Specifications, operating/abnormal procedures, administrative procedures, and Emergency Plans as available to the plant operators.
5. An attempt will be made to distinguish between RO and SRO knowledge and abilities to the extent that such a distinction is supported by the facility training materials.
6. Prudent scheduling of the exam week activities is important to help alleviate undue stress on the operators. Your training staff and the Chief Examiner should work very closely in formulating a schedule which does not result in excessive delays in individuals being administered their examination.

ENCLOSURE 3

NRC RULES AND GUIDANCE FOR EXAMINEES

1. Use black ink or dark pencil ONLY to facilitate legible reproduction.
2. Print your name in the blank provided on the cover sheet of the examination.
3. Fill in the date on the cover sheet of the examination, if necessary.
4. Answer each question on the examination.
5. Use abbreviations only if they are commonly used in facility literature.
6. The point value for each question is indicated in parentheses after the question.
7. Show all calculations, methods or assumptions used to obtain an answer to mathematical problem, whether asked for in the question or not. (This does not apply to multiple choice questions.)
8. Unless solicited, the location of references need not be stated.
9. If parts of the examination are not clear with respect to their intent, ask questions of the examiner only.
10. You must sign the statement on the cover sheet that indicates the work on the examination is your own and that you have not received or been given any assistance in completing the examination. This must be signed AFTER the examination has been completed.
11. Rest room trips are to be limited and only one examinee at a time may leave. You must avoid all contact with anyone outside the examination room to avoid even the appearance or possibility of examination compromise.
12. Cheating on the examination would result in a revocation of your license and could result in more severe penalties.
13. Each section of the examination is designated to take approximately 60 minutes to complete. You will be given 3 hours to complete the examination.
14. When you are finished and have turned in your completed examination, leave the examination area.
15. To pass the examination, you must achieve at least 70% overall.

16. Proportional grading will be applied. Any additional wrong information that is provided may count against you. For example, if a question is worth one point and asks for four responses, each of which is worth 0.25 points, and you give five responses, each of your responses will be worth 0.20 points. If one of your five responses is incorrect, 0.20 will be deducted and your total credit for that question will be 0.80 instead of 1.00 even though you got the four correct answers.

ENCLOSURE 4

PRE-EXAMINATION SECURITY AGREEMENT

I _____ agree that I will not knowingly divulge any
Print Name

information concerning the requalification examination for _____
to any unauthorized persons.

_____/_____
Signature Date

POST EXAMINATION SECURITY AGREEMENT

I _____ did not, to the best of my knowledge, divulge
Print Name

any information concerning the examination administered on _____
to any unauthorized persons.

_____/_____
Signature Date

The estimated average burden is 7.7 hours per response, including gathering, copying and mailing the required material. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Records and Reports Management Branch, Division of Information Support Services, Office of Information Resources Management, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555; and to the Paperwork Reduction Project (3150-0101), Office of Management and Budget, Washington, D.C. 20503.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. If you have any questions on the examination process, please contact Mr. James L. Caldwell, at (301) 504-1042.

Sincerely,

JSJ

James L. Caldwell, Chief
Nonpower Reactor Section
Operator Licensing Branch
Division of Licensee Performance
and Quality Evaluation
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosures:

1. Reference Material Requirements
2. Administration of Requalification Examinations
3. NRC Rules and Guidance for Examinees
4. Security Agreements

cc w/encls:

Alan Blotcky, Reactor Supervisor

DISTRIBUTION:

RGallo

JCaldwell

DMcCain

Central Files

Docket Files

Facility File (DMcCain)

Facility Training Coordinator

Facility Operations Manager

PDoyle, OLB Examiner

AAdams, PM

*See previous concurrence

OLB:DLPQ

OLB:DLPQ

OLB:DLPQ

DMcCain:d1m

PDoyle

JCaldwell

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