

DETAILS

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The NRC examiners administered initial examinations to seven Reactor Operator (RO) candidates. The examinations were administered in accordance with NUREG 1021, Examiner Standards, Revision 6. The results of the examination are summarized below:

	Pass/Fail
Written	6/1
Operating	5/2
Overall	4/3

A senior reactor operator was administered a requalification retake examination for the walk-through (Job Performance Measure) portion only. He passed the retake exam.

2.0 PREEXAMINATION ACTIVITIES

The facility reviewed the examination in the Regional Office on December 4, 1991. The review team included Hope Creek's Operations Training supervisor, two Senior Reactor Operator (SRO)-licensed staff personnel, and an SRO-certified training instructor. On December 9, 1991, the simulator scenarios used for the operating section of the exam were validated on the facility's simulator. Facility staff who were involved with these reviews signed security agreements to ensure that the examination was not compromised.

3.0 EXAMINATION-RELATED FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

The following is a summary of the strengths and weaknesses noted during examination administration. This information is being provided to aid the licensee in upgrading their training program.

3.1 Written Section

The following subjects were missed by at least five of the candidates, indicating a weak performance in these areas.

- Knowledge of expected response of the recirculation flow control system to the opening of discharge valve HV-F031.
- Knowledge of the highest pressure at which the safety relief valves will control reactor pressure following a full main steam line isolation.
- Knowledge of the condition which will cause the control room ventilation system to isolate.

- Knowledge of the condition which allows injection from the standby liquid control system to be terminated.
- Knowledge of what items on the Nuclear Control Operator's (NCO's) relief checklist must be completed prior to accepting the watch.

3.2 Walk-Through Section

No generic strengths or weaknesses were noted with respect to the candidates' performance. However, the Job Performance Measures themselves did not always meet the guidelines established in the examiner standards. This area is discussed in more detail in section 5.

3.3 Simulator Section

Strengths

- Familiarity with control boards and systems operation.

Weaknesses

- Ability to recognize failure-to-scram (ATWS) situations.
- Use of Alarm Response Procedures (ARPs).
- Recognition of entry conditions into EOPs.

3.4 Conclusions

Regarding the written examination, it is noted that in addition to the candidate who failed, four other candidates scored between 80 and 83%. The high score was 89.8%. These results indicate marginal performance and appear to represent real knowledge and ability weaknesses despite a challenging examination.

4.0 DEFICIENCIES IN PROCEDURES

During the course of the examination, the NRC examiners identified deficiencies with the following facility support procedures to Emergency Operating Procedures (EOPs).

OP-EO.ZZ-301, Bypassing MSIV Isolation Interlocks, Revision 3

This procedure described items of the EOP implementation kit that were not contained in the kit as a result of a recent modification on the method to insert.