



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 8, 2021

MEMORANDUM TO: Cyndy Bixler, Operator Licensing Assistant
Region I

Donna Egelstad, Operator Licensing Assistant
Region II

Colleen Schmidt, Operator Licensing Assistant
Region III

Jennifer Bridges, Operator Licensing Assistant
Region RIV

FROM: Ikeda J. Betts, Operator Licensing Assistant **/RA/**
Operator Licensing and Human Factors Branch
Division of Reactor Oversight
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: 2021 GENERIC FUNDAMENTALS EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

It is time for you to prepare and send the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) annual letter (enclosed) to your facilities announcing the dates for the Generic Fundamentals Examination (GFE) in CY 2021. Below are the dates the NRC plans to administer the exams, and the dates the facility registration letters are due to you.

Date of GFE exams for 2021	Date registration letters from facilities due to NRC
March 10, 2021	February 8, 2021
September 8, 2021	August 9, 2021

Enclosure:
As stated

SUBJECT: ANNOUNCEMENT OF GENERIC FUNDAMENTALS EXAMINATION
SECTION OF THE WRITTEN OPERATOR LICENSING EXAMINATION
FOR 2021

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) plans to administer the generic fundamentals examination (GFE) section of the written operator licensing examination on the following dates during this calendar year:

March 10, 2021

September 8, 2021

Due to the COVID-19 public health crisis, it is preferable to register personnel to take the GFE electronically, through <https://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operator-licensing/electronic-gfe-registration-info.html>, or through encrypted email to the OLA in your region and a copy to the headquarters OLA at lkeda.Betts@nrc.gov. To register personnel to take the GFE by mail, an authorized representative of your facility can submit a letter to the appropriate regional administrator with a copy addressed, as follows:

Chief, Operator Licensing and Human Factors Branch, NRR
Mail Stop O4 A17M
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Section 55.31(a)(3), an applicant for an operator license must submit a written request from an authorized representative of the facility licensee by which the applicant will be employed that the written examination and operating test be administered to the applicant. The NRC permits a request for administration of the GFE section of the written exam to be made and granted prior to the applicant's successful completion of the facility licensee's requirements to be licensed as an operator or senior operator and prior to the facility licensee's certification of the need for an operator or a senior operator to perform assigned duties. However, the facility licensee should only request administration of the GFE section of the written exam for applicants who will have completed fundamentals training by the date of the examination.

The letter should identify the individuals who will take the examination. The letter should also identify the personnel who will have access to the examinations before they are administered (e.g., proctors) and include the address and name of the individual to whom the examinations are to be sent.

To allow the NRC to assign docket numbers, both the NRC Regional Administrator and the Chief, Operator Licensing and Human Factors Branch, should receive your letter **30 calendar days before each desired examination date** shown above. A sample registration letter is enclosed.

Enclosure

Copies of the administered boiling-water reactor and pressurized-water reactor GFEs and their answer keys will be available for review in the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) immediately after administration of the second subsequent GFE. The NRC will also update its GFE Web page, <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operator-licensing/generic-fundamentals-examinations.html>, at that time.

Please note that the NRC staff proposes to incorporate the testing of generic fundamentals topics into the NRC operator licensing initial examination (site-specific examination) in draft Revision 12 of NUREG-1021 "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors" (ADAMS Accession No. [ML20329A326](#)). The draft NUREG is currently available for public comment.

If you have any questions concerning this examination, please contact Skylar Cushing at 301-415-1064.

Sincerely,

(Name), Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Enclosure:
As stated

cc:

Enclosure

(Name)
Regional Administrator
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory
Commission, Region XX
(Number) (Street address)
(City, State ZIP code)

Dear (Name),

(Facility name) requests approval from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to have the following (number) individuals take the (BWR or PWR) generic fundamentals examination (GFE) section of the written operator licensing examination to be administered on (date):

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Previous Docket No.</u>
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(Insert the name, date of birth, and previous Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR) Part 55 Docket Number (if applicable) for each person.)

The registrants should have completed the generic fundamentals portion of the training program by the examination date and are expected to meet all other requirements of 10 CFR 55.31 in the future.

The following personnel will have access to the examinations before they are administered:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>
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(Insert the name and title of each person who will have access to the examinations before they are administered (e.g., proctors)).

Please address the examinations to the **overnight mail** address, as follows (note that home addresses are not acceptable):

(Name, Title)
(Street address)
(City, State ZIP code)

If you have any questions, please contact (facility contact name) at (telephone number).

Sincerely,

(Name, title)

cc: Chief, Operator Licensing and Human Factors Branch, NRR

Enclosure