



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I
2100 RENAISSANCE BLVD., SUITE 100
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406-2713

April 1, 2021

Mr. Eric Carr
President and Chief Nuclear Officer
PSEG Nuclear LLC – N09
P. O. Box 236
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

SUBJECT: HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION – INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSING
EXAMINATION REPORT 05000354/2021301

Dear Mr. Carr:

On March 3, 2021, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed an examination at the Hope Creek facility. The enclosed examination report documents the examination results, which were discussed on March 25, 2021, with Mr. S. Nevelos, Senior Director Nuclear Training, and other members of your staff.

The examination included the evaluation of two applicants for reactor operator licenses and six applicants for instant senior reactor operator licenses. The written and operating examinations were developed using NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 11. The license examiners determined all applicants satisfied the requirements of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 55, and the appropriate licenses were issued on March 25, 2021.

No findings were identified during this examination.

This letter, its enclosure, and your response (if any) will be made available for public inspection and copying at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> and at the NRC Public Document Room in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390, "Public Inspections, Exemptions, Requests for Withholding."

Sincerely,

X /RA/

Signed by: Donald E. Jackson
Donald E. Jackson, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No. 05000354
License No. NPF-57

E. Carr

2

Enclosure: Examination Report 05000354/2021301
w/Attachment: Supplementary Information

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SUBJECT: HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION – INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSING EXAMINATION REPORT 05000354/2021301 DATED APRIL 1, 2021

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EXAMINATION REPORT**U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I**

Docket No. 05000354

License No. NPF-57

Enterprise Identifier: L-2021-OLL-0001

Report No. 05000354/2021301

Licensee: PSEG Nuclear LLC

Facility: Hope Creek Generating Station

Location: Hancocks Bridge, NJ

Dates: February 22-26, 2021 (Operating Test Administration)
March 3, 2021 (Written Examination Administration)
March 8, 2021 (Licensee Submitted Post Exam Package)
March 4 – 22, 2021 (NRC Examination Grading)
March 25, 2021 (Licenses Issued)

Examiners: T. Fish, Chief Examiner, Operations Branch
B. Fuller, Sr. Operations Engineer
T. Hedigan, Operations Engineer
C. Crisden, Operations Engineer

Approved By: Donald E. Jackson, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

SUMMARY

ER 05000354/2021301; February 22 – March 3, 2021; Hope Creek Generating Station; Initial Operator Licensing Examination Report.

Four NRC examiners evaluated the competency of two applicants for reactor operator licenses and six applicants for instant senior reactor operator licenses. The facility licensee developed the examinations using NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 11. The written examination was administered by the facility on March 3, 2021. NRC examiners administered the operating tests February 22-26, 2021. The NRC examiners determined that all applicants satisfied the requirements of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 55, and the appropriate licenses have been issued.

A. NRC-Identified and Self-Revealing Findings

No findings were identified.

B. Licensee-Identified Violations

None.

REPORT DETAILS

4. OTHER ACTIVITIES (OA)

4OA5 Other Activities (Initial Operator License Examination)

.1 License Applications

a. Scope

The examiners reviewed all license applications submitted by the licensee to ensure the applications reflected that each applicant satisfied relevant license eligibility requirements. The applications were submitted on NRC Form 398, "Personal Qualification Statement," and NRC Form 396, "Certification of Medical Examination by Facility Licensee." The examiners also audited the license applications to confirm that they accurately reflected the subject applicant's qualifications. This audit focused on the applicant's experience and on-the-job training, including control manipulations that provided significant reactivity changes.

b. Findings

No findings were identified.

.2 Operator Knowledge and Performance

a. Examination Scope

On March 3, 2021, the licensee proctored the administration of the written examinations to all applicants. The licensee staff graded the written examinations, analyzed the results, and presented their analysis to the NRC on March 8, 2021.

The NRC examination team administered the various portions of the operating examination February 22-26, 2021. The applicants for reactor operator licenses participated in at least two dynamic simulator scenarios, in a control room and facilities walkthrough test consisting of eleven system tasks, and an administrative test consisting of four administrative tasks. The applicants for instant senior reactor operator licenses participated in at least two dynamic simulator scenarios, a control room and facilities walkthrough test consisting of ten system tasks, and an administrative test consisting of five administrative tasks.

b. Findings

No findings were identified.

All applicants passed the operating test and the written examination. For the written examinations, the reactor operator applicants' average score was 88.0 percent and ranged from 84.0 to 92.0 percent. The senior operator applicants' average score was 91.8 percent and ranged from 87.0 to 96.0 percent. The text of the examination questions may be accessed in the ADAMS system under the accession numbers noted

in the Attachment. In accordance with current NRC policy, the release of the written examination in ADAMS to the public will be delayed for two years.

Chapter ES-403 and Form ES-403-1 of NUREG 1021 require the licensee to analyze the validity of any written examination questions that were missed by half or more of the applicants. The licensee conducted this analysis and submitted it to the chief examiner.

.3 Initial Licensing Examination Development

a. Examination Scope

The facility licensee developed the examinations in accordance with NUREG-1021, Revision 11. All licensee facility training and operations staff involved in examination preparation and validation were listed on a security agreement. The facility licensee submitted the operating examination outline on September 11, 2020. The chief examiner reviewed the outlines against the requirements of NUREG-1021, and provided comments to the licensee. The facility licensee submitted the draft examination package on November 20, 2020. The chief examiner reviewed the draft examination package against the requirements of NUREG-1021, and provided comments to the licensee on the examination on January 8, 2021. The NRC conducted an onsite validation of the operating examinations and provided further comments during the week of January 11, 2021. The licensee satisfactorily completed comment resolution on January 29, 2021.

b. Findings

No findings were identified.

The NRC approved the initial examination outline and advised the licensee to proceed with the operating examination development.

The examiners determined that the written and operating examinations initially submitted by the licensee were within the range of acceptability expected for a proposed examination.

.4 Simulation Facility Performance

a. Examination Scope

The examiners observed simulator performance with regard to plant fidelity during the examination validation and administration.

b. Findings

No findings were identified.

.5 Examination Security

a. Examination Scope

The examiners reviewed examination security for examination development and during both the onsite preparation week and examination administration week for compliance with NUREG-1021, Revision 11 requirements. Plans for simulator security and applicant control were reviewed and discussed with licensee personnel.

b. Findings

No findings were identified.

4OA6 Meetings, Including Exit

The chief examiner presented the examination results to Mr. S. Nevelos, Senior Director Nuclear Training, and other members of the licensee's staff on March 25, 2021.

The licensee did not identify any information or materials used during the examination as proprietary.

ATTACHMENT: SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

KEY POINTS OF CONTACT

Licensee Personnel

S. Dennis, Exam Author
P. Breidenbaugh, Exam Author

ITEMS OPENED, CLOSED, AND DISCUSSED

NONE

ADAMS DOCUMENTS REFERENCED

Accession No. ML21076A064 – FINAL-Written Exam (Note: In accordance with current NRC policy, the release of this examination in ADAMS to the public will be delayed for two years.)

Accession No. ML21076A066 – FINAL-Operating Exam (Note: In accordance with current NRC policy, the release of this examination in ADAMS to the public will be delayed for two years.)