



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
1600 EAST LAMAR BOULEVARD
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4511

November 29, 2021

Mr. Kent Scott, Site Vice President
Entergy Operations, Inc.
River Bend Station
5485 U.S. Highway 61N
St. Francisville, LA 70775

SUBJECT: RIVER BEND STATION - NOTIFICATION OF NRC INITIAL OPERATOR
LICENSING EXAMINATION 05000458/2022301

Dear Mr. Scott:

In a telephone conversation on November 10, 2021 between Mr. Gabriel Kimich, Simulator and Regulatory Exam Supervisor and myself, chief examiner, arrangements were made for the administration of operator licensing examinations at River Bend Station during the week of December 5, 2022.

As agreed during the telephone conversation, your staff will prepare the examinations based on the guidelines in NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 12. The NRC's regional office will discuss with your staff any changes that might be necessary before the examinations are administered.

To meet the above schedule, it will be necessary for your staff to furnish the operating test outlines by July 4, 2022. The written examination outline was provided to your staff on November 16, 2021. The written examinations, operating tests, and supporting reference materials identified in NUREG-1021, Examination Standard (ES)-2.1 will be due by September 19, 2022. Pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR 55.40(b)(3)), an authorized representative of the facility licensee shall approve the examinations, and tests before they are submitted to the NRC for review and approval. All materials shall be complete and ready-to-use.

We request that any personal, proprietary, sensitive unclassified, or safeguards information in your response be contained in a separate enclosure and appropriately marked. Delays in receiving the required materials, or the submittal of inadequate or incomplete materials, may cause the examinations to be cancelled or rescheduled. In addition, your support for on-site validation of the examinations is required during the week of October 31, 2022.

To conduct the requested written examinations and operating tests, your staff will need to provide adequate space and accommodations and to make the simulation facility available on the dates noted above. In accordance with ES-3.5, "Administering Operating Tests," your staff should retain the original simulator performance data (e.g., system pressures, temperatures,

and levels) generated during the dynamic operating tests until the NRC takes its licensing action on all of the applications and any adjudicatory actions on any hearing demands are complete.

ES-1.2, "Guidelines for Taking NRC Examinations," contains NRC policies and guidelines that will be in effect while the written examinations and operating tests are being administered.

To permit timely NRC review and evaluation, your staff should submit preliminary reactor operator and senior reactor operator waiver or excusal requests (if any) (Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval number 3150-0090) at least 60 days before the first examination date (if able). I should be contacted to determine the method for submission of the waiver and/or excusal requests. Preliminary reactor operator and senior reactor operator license applications (OMB approval number 3150-0090) and, medical certifications (OMB approval number 3150-0024) should be submitted at least 30 days before the first examination date. If the preliminary applications are not received at least 30 days before the examination date, a postponement may be necessary. Final, signed applications certifying that all training has been completed and requesting any waivers or excusals, as applicable, should be submitted at least 14 days before the first examination date.

Although the minimum guidelines for receiving waiver or excusal requests is 30 days before the first examination date (preliminary) and 14 days before the first examination date (final), the requests should be submitted as early in the process as possible (see the 60-day guideline, above). Resolutions resulting from verbal inquiries by the licensee to the NRC are not binding. Submittals addressing waivers and/or excusals should be in writing (i.e., on NRC Form 398, or as directed when I am contacted to determine the method for submission). The NRC's final decision on whether to grant a waiver or excusal will be documented on the final (not preliminary) NRC Form 398 submitted for the applicant and will not be provided until the final application is submitted to the NRC.

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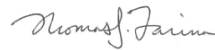
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Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Mr. Kimich has been advised of the policies and guidelines referenced in this letter. If you have any questions regarding the NRC's examination procedures and guidelines, please contact me at 817-200-1117 or Heather Gepford, Chief, Operations Branch at 817-200-1156.

Sincerely,



Signed by Farina, Thomas
on 11/30/21

Thomas J. Farina, Chief Examiner
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket: 50-458
License: NPF-47

RIVER BEND STATION - NOTIFICATION OF NRC INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSING
 EXAMINATION 05000458/2022301 DATED – NOVEMBER 29, 2021

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ADAMS ACCESSION NUMBER: ML21320A369

SUNSI Review: ADAMS: Non-Publicly Available Non-Sensitive Keyword:
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