



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION III  
2443 WARRENVILLE ROAD, SUITE 210  
LISLE, ILLINOIS 60532-4352

December 29, 2021

Mr. Joel P. Gebbie  
Senior VP and Chief Nuclear Officer  
Indiana Michigan Power Company  
Nuclear Generation Group  
One Cook Place  
Bridgman, MI 49106

SUBJECT: DONALD C. COOK NUCLEAR POWER PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2  
CONFIRMATION OF INITIAL LICENSE EXAMINATION

Dear Mr. Gebbie:

In a telephone conversation on December 6, 2021, between Mr. T. Valley, Examination Project Lead, and Mr. T. Wingfield, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Operations Engineer/Examiner, arrangements were made for the administration of operator licensing examinations at Donald C. Cook Nuclear Power Plant during the weeks of July 18, 2022, and July 25, 2022. In addition, the NRC staff will make an examination validation visit to the facility during the week of June 13, 2022.

As agreed upon during the telephone conversation, your staff will prepare the examinations based on the guidelines in Revision 12 to NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." 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 February 18, 2022. The NRC staff will provide the written examination outline by January 4, 2022. The written examinations, operating tests, and supporting reference materials identified in NUREG-1021, Examination Standard (ES)-2.1, "Preparing for Operator Licensing Initial Examinations," will be due by May 4, 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.

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 licensing action on all the applications and any adjudicatory actions on any hearing demands are complete.

ES-1.2, "Guidelines for Taking NRC Examinations," contains a number of NRC guidelines for the written examinations and operating tests as they 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) Control Number 3150-0090) at least 60 days before the first examination date (if possible). Contact Mr. T. Wingfield to determine the method for submission of the waiver or excusal requests. Preliminary reactor operator and senior reactor operator license applications (OMB Control Number 3150-0090) and medical certifications (OMB Control Number 3150-0024) should be submitted at least 30 days before the first examination date. If the NRC does not receive the preliminary applications 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 guidelines for waiver or excusal requests call for their receipt at least 30 days before the first examination date (preliminary) and 14 days before the first examination date (final), the requests should be submitted as early as possible in the process (see the 60-day guideline above). Resolutions resulting from verbal inquiries by the facility licensee to the NRC are not binding. Submittals addressing waivers or excusals, or both, should be in writing (i.e., using NRC Form 398 or as directed by Mr. T. Wingfield when contacting him to determine the method for submission). The NRC will document its final decision on whether to grant a waiver or excusal on the final (not preliminary) NRC Form 398 submitted for the applicant. The NRC will not provide its decision until the final application is submitted to the agency.

### **Paperwork Reduction Act Statement**

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Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Mr. Valley has been advised of the policies and guidelines referenced in this letter. If you have any questions about the NRC's examination procedures and guidelines, please contact Mr. T. Wingfield at 630-829-9724 or me at 630-829-9868.

Sincerely,



Signed by Pelke, Patricia  
on 12/29/21

Patricia J. Pelke, Chief  
Operations Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos.: 50-315; 50-316  
License Nos.: DPR-58; DPR-74

cc: Distribution via LISTSERV®  
D. Emery, Training Manager

Letter to Joel P. Gebbie from Patricia J. Pelke dated December 29, 2021.

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CONFIRMATION OF INITIAL LICENSE EXAMINATION

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