



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

April 12, 2022

Mr. Terry Brown  
Site Vice President  
Energy Harbor Nuclear Corp.  
Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station  
5501 N. State Rte. 2,  
Mail Stop A-DB-3080  
Oak Harbor, OH 43449-9760

SUBJECT: DAVIS-BESSE NUCLEAR POWER STATION—NRC INITIAL LICENSE  
EXAMINATION REPORT 05000346/2022301

Dear Mr. Brown:

On February 24, 2022, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed the initial operator licensing examination process for license applicants employed at your Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station. The enclosed report documents the results of those examinations. Preliminary observations noted during the examination process were discussed on February 11, 2022, with you and other members of your staff. An exit meeting was conducted by telephone on March 22, 2022, with you, your staff, and Mr. C. Zoia, Chief Operator Licensing Examiner, to review the final grading of the examination for the license applicants. During the telephone conversation, the facility's post-examination comments, initially received by the NRC on February 24, 2022, were discussed.

The NRC examiners administered the initial license examination operating test during the week of February 7, 2022. The written examination was administered by Davis-Besse training department personnel on February 17, 2022. Eleven Senior Reactor Operator and two Reactor Operator applicants were administered license examinations. The results of the examinations were finalized on March 22, 2022. Thirteen applicants passed all sections of their respective examinations. The as-administered written examination and operating test, as well as documents related to the development and review (outlines, review comments and resolution, etc.) of the examination will be withheld from public disclosure until February 24, 2024.

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 Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, Part 2.390, "Public Inspections, Exemptions, Requests for Withholding."

Sincerely,



Signed by Pelke, Patricia  
on 04/12/22

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

Docket No. 50-346  
License No. NPF-3

Enclosures:

1. OL Examination  
Report 05000346/2022301
2. Simulator Facility Fidelity Report

cc: Distribution via LISTSERV®  
N. Barron, Training Manager

Letter to Terry Brown from Patricia J. Pelke dated April 12, 2022.

SUBJECT: DAVIS-BESSE NUCLEAR POWER STATION—NRC INITIAL LICENSE EXAMINATION REPORT 05000346/2022301

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U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION III

Docket No: 50-346

License No: NPF-3

Report No: 05000346/2022301

Enterprise Identifier L-2022-OLL-0011

Licensee: Energy Harbor Nuclear Corp.

Facility: Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station

Location: Oak Harbor, OH

Dates: February 7, 2022, through February 24, 2022

Examiners: C. Zoia, Senior Operations Engineer, Chief Examiner  
G. Roach, Senior Operations Engineer, Examiner  
R. Baker, Senior Operations Engineer, Examiner  
B. Tindell, Reactor Engineer, Examiner

Approved by: P. Pelke, Chief  
Operations Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

## **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

Examination Report 05000346/2022301; 02/07/2021–02/24/2022; Energy Harbor Nuclear Corp.; Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station; Initial License Examination Report.

The announced initial operator licensing examination was conducted by regional and program office U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission examiners in accordance with the guidance of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 11.

### Examination Summary

Thirteen of thirteen applicants passed all sections of their respective examinations. Eight applicants were issued senior operator licenses and one applicant was issued an operator license. Upon receipt of documentation that the required experience deferrals were met, three additional senior operator licenses and one additional operator license will be issued. (Section 40A5.1)

## REPORT DETAILS

### 40A5 Other Activities

#### .1 Initial Licensing Examinations

##### a. Examination Scope

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) examiners and members of the facility licensee's staff used the guidance prescribed in NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 11, to develop, validate, administer, and grade the written examination and operating test. The written examination outlines were prepared by the NRC staff and were transmitted to the facility licensee's staff. Members of the facility licensee's staff developed the operating test outlines and developed the written examination and operating test. The NRC examiners validated the proposed examination during the week of January 3, 2022, with the assistance of members of the facility licensee's staff. During the onsite validation week, the examiners audited two license applications for accuracy. The NRC examiners, with the assistance of members of the facility licensee's staff, administered the operating test, consisting of job performance measures and dynamic simulator scenarios, during the period of February 7, 2022, through February 11, 2022. The facility licensee administered the written examination on February 17, 2022.

##### b. Findings

###### (1) Written Examination

The NRC examiners determined that the written examination, as proposed by the licensee, was within the range of acceptability expected for a proposed examination. Less than 20 percent of the proposed examination questions were determined to be unsatisfactory and required modification or replacement.

During validation of the written examination, several questions were modified or replaced. All changes made to the proposed written examination, were made in accordance with NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," and documented on Form ES-401-9, "Written Examination Review Worksheet." The Form ES-401-9, the written examination outlines, and both the proposed and final written examinations, will be available electronically in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) on February 24, 2024, (ADAMS Accession Numbers ML20140A262, ML20140A252, ML20140A253, and ML20140A256, respectively).

On February 24, 2022, the licensee submitted documentation noting that there were no post-examination comments for consideration by the NRC examiners when grading the written examination.

The NRC examiners graded the written examination on February 25, 2022, and conducted a review of each missed question to determine the accuracy and validity of the examination questions.

(2) Operating Test

The NRC examiners determined that the operating test, developed by the licensee from the NRC prepared outlines, was within the range of acceptability expected for a proposed examination. Less than 20 percent of the proposed operating test portion of the examination was determined to be unsatisfactory and required modification or replacement.

During the validation of the operating test, several Job Performance Measures (JPMs) were modified or replaced, and some modifications were made to the dynamic simulator scenarios. Changes made to the operating test portion of the examination, were made in accordance with NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," and documented on Form ES-301-7, "Operating Test Comments." The Form ES-301-7, the operating test outlines (ES-301-1 and ES-301-2), and both the proposed and final as-administered dynamic simulator scenarios and JPMs, will be available electronically in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of NRC's ADAMS on February 24, 2024, (ADAMS Accession Numbers ML20140A262, ML20140A252, ML20140A253, and ML20140A256, respectively).

The NRC examiners completed operating test grading on March 22, 2022.

(3) Examination Results

Eleven applicants at the Senior Reactor Operator level and two applicants at the Reactor Operator level were administered written examinations and/or operating tests. Thirteen applicants passed all portions of their respective examinations. Eight applicants were issued senior operator licenses and one applicant was issued an operator license on March 22, 2022. Upon receipt of documentation that the required experience deferrals were met, three additional senior operator licenses and one additional operator license will be issued.

.2 Examination Security

a. Scope

The NRC examiners reviewed and observed the licensee's implementation of examination security requirements during the examination validation and administration to assure compliance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, Part 55.49, "Integrity of Examinations and Tests." The examiners used the guidelines provided in NUREG 1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," to determine acceptability of the licensee's examination security activities.

b. Findings

There was one minor example of a breach of examination security when a component flag was not removed between consecutive applicants performing a JPM. The issue was documented in Condition Report CR-2022-01349, and it was determined that the fairness and equity of the examination process was not impacted by this event.

#### 4OA6 Management Meetings

##### .1 Debrief

The chief examiner presented the examination team's preliminary observations and findings on February 11, 2022, to Mr. Terry Brown, Site Vice President, and other members of the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station Operations and Training Department staff.

##### .2 Exit Meeting

The chief examiner conducted an exit meeting on March 22, 2022, with Mr. Terry Brown, Site Vice President, by telephone. The NRC's final disposition of the station's grading of the written examination and post-examination comments were disclosed and discussed during the telephone discussion. The chief examiner asked the licensee whether any of the retained submitted material used to develop or administer the examination should be considered proprietary. No proprietary or sensitive information was identified during the examination or debrief/exit meetings.

ATTACHMENT: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION



## **SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

### **KEY POINTS OF CONTACT**

#### Licensee

T. Brown, Site Vice President  
D. Huey, Plant Manager  
J. Pry, Director, Performance Improvement  
D. Hartnett, Operations Manager  
A. Filipiak, Assistant Operations Manager  
L. Willard Jr., Assistant Operations Manager  
N. Barron, Site Training Manager  
D. Witt, Superintendent Nuclear Operations Training  
R. Brown, Superintendent, Fleet Operations Training  
G. Wolf, Regulatory Compliance Supervisor  
C. Sutter, Nuclear Operations Training Instructor  
E. Szymanski, Nuclear Operations Training Instructor  
D. Rowland, Lead Exam Developer, Nuclear Operations Training  
C. Hill, Nuclear Operations Training Supervisor  
G. Ellithorpe, Regulatory Compliance Staff Nuclear Specialist

#### U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

D. Mills, Senior Resident Inspector  
C. Zoia, Senior Operations Engineer, Chief Examiner  
G. Roach, Senior Operations Engineer, Examiner  
R. Baker, Senior Operations Engineer, Examiner  
B. Tindell, Reactor Engineer, Examiner

### **ITEMS OPENED, CLOSED, AND DISCUSSED**

#### Opened, Closed, and Discussed

None

### **LIST OF ACRONYMS USED**

ADAMS	Agencywide Documents Access and Management System
NRC	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
JPMs	Job Performance Measures

## SIMULATION FACILITY FIDELITY REPORT

Facility Licensee: Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station  
Facility Docket No: 050-346  
Operating Tests Administered: February 7, 2022, through February 11, 2022

The following documents observations made by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission examination team during the initial operator license examination. These observations do not constitute audit or inspection findings and are not, without further verification and review, indicative of non-compliance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, Part 55.45(b). These observations do not affect U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission certification or approval of the simulation facility other than to provide information which may be used in future evaluations. No licensee action is required in response to these observations.

During the conduct of the simulator portion of the operating tests, the following items were observed:

ITEM	DESCRIPTION
None	N/A