



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I
475 ALLENDALE RD, STE 102
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406-1415

May 1, 2023

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

SUBJECT: HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION – SENIOR REACTOR AND REACTOR
OPERATOR INITIAL LICENSE EXAMINATIONS

Dear Eric Carr:

In a telephone conversation on April 19, 2023, between Todd Fish, Chief Examiner, and Tim Catalano, Facility Exam Lead, arrangements were made for the administration of licensing examinations at the Hope Creek facility during the week of February 12, 2024. In addition, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will make an examination validation visit to your facility the week of January 8, 2024.

As agreed during the telephone conversation, your staff will prepare the examinations based on the guidelines in Revision 12, of 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 August 12, 2023. The NRC staff previously provided the written examination outline. 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 November 27, 2023. Pursuant to Title 10, Section 55.40(b)(3), 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 Commission for review and approval. All materials shall be complete and ready-to-use.

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 Examination Standard (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 Todd Fish, Chief Examiner, 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 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 guidelines for receiving waiver or excusal requests call for 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 licensee to the NRC are not binding. Submittals addressing waivers or excusals, or both, should be in writing (i.e., using NRC Form 398, "Personal Qualifications Statement—Licensee," or as directed by Todd Fish 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

This letter contains information collection requirements that are subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). These information collections were approved by the Office of Management and Budget, approval number 3150-0018.

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The NRC may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the document requesting or requiring the collection displays a currently valid OMB control number.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390, "Public Inspections, Exemptions, Requests for Withholding," of the agency's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection through the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible on the NRC's website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

After you have been notified by the NRC Chief Examiner or Branch Chief that operator licenses have been issued, please direct any inquiries concerning a formal presentation of certificates to this office. Our goal is to have the operator certificates available for your celebration. At least one-month advance notice of your celebration arrangements would be appreciated to plan our senior manager attendance and process the certificates.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Tim Catalano 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 Todd Fish at (610) 337-5369 or me at (610) 337-5306.

Sincerely,

Donald E. Jackson, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Operating Reactor Safety

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SUBJECT: HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION – SENIOR REACTOR AND REACTOR OPERATOR INITIAL LICENSE EXAMINATIONS DATED MAY 1, 2023

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