



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION II
SAM NUNN ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET SW SUITE 23T85
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8931

August 10, 2000

Duke Energy Corporation
ATTN: Mr. W. R. McCollum
Site Vice President
Oconee Nuclear Station
7800 Rochester Highway
Seneca, SC 29672

SUBJECT: REACTOR AND SENIOR REACTOR OPERATOR INITIAL EXAMINATIONS
OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION - 50-269/2000-301, 50-270/2000-301 AND
50-287/2000-301

Dear Mr. McCollum:

During the period July 10 - 18, 2000, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) administered operating examinations to employees of your company who had applied for licenses to operate the Oconee Nuclear Station Units 1, 2, and 3. At the conclusion of the examination, the examiners discussed the examination questions and preliminary findings with those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report. The written examination was administered by your staff on July 20, 2000.

All seven of the Reactor Operator and all four of the Senior Reactor Operator applicants passed both the written and operating examinations. A Simulation Facility Report is included in this report as Enclosure 2.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/ADAMS/index.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Sincerely,

/RA by Ronald Aiello Acting For/

Harold O. Christensen, Chief
Operator Licensing and
Human Performance Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos.: 50-269, 50-270, 50-287
License Nos.: DPR-38, DPR-47, DPR-55

Enclosures: (See page 2)

Enclosures: 1. Report Details
2. Simulation Facility Report

cc w/encls:

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OFFICE	RII:DRS	RII:DRS	RII:DRS	RII:DRS	RII:DRP	
SIGNATURE	/RA/	/RA by R. Baldwin for/	/RA by G. Hopper for/	/RA by R. Aiello for/	/RA/	
NAME	GHopper:pmd	RAiello	GSalyers	HCHristensen	COgle	
DATE	8/10/2000	8/10/2000	8/10/2000	8/10/2000	8/10/2000	
E-MAIL COPY?	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION II

Docket Nos.: 50-269, 50-270, and 50-287

License Nos.: DPR-38, DPR-47, DPR-55

Report Nos.: 50-269/00-301, 50-270/00-301, 50-287/00-301

Licensee: Duke Energy Corporation

Facility: Oconee Nuclear Station

Location: Seneca, SC

Dates: Operating Tests - July 10 - 18, 2000
Written Examination - July 20, 2000

Examiners: George Hopper, Chief License Examiner
Ron Aiello, Senior License Examiner
Glen Salyers, License Examiner

Approved by: Harold Christensen, Chief
Operator Licensing and Human Performance Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Oconee Nuclear Station
NRC Inspection Report 50-269/00-301, 50-270/00-301, 50-287/00-301

During the period July 10 - 18, 2000, NRC examiners conducted an announced operator licensing initial examination in accordance with the guidance of Examiner Standards, NUREG-1021, Revision 8. This examination implemented the operator licensing requirements of 10 CFR §55.41, §55.43, and §55.45. No significant issues were identified.

Seven Reactor Operator applicants and four Senior Reactor Operator applicants received written examinations and operating tests. The NRC administered the operating tests during the period July 10 - 18, 2000. The licensee administered the written examination on July 20, 2000.

Report Details

Summary of Plant Status: Unit 1, 2 and 3 were at 100% throughout the examination period.

4. OTHER ACTIVITIES

4OA5 Inspection Scope

a. Scope

The NRC conducted a regular, announced operator licensing initial examination during the period of July 10 - 18, 2000. Seven RO applicants and four SRO applicants received written and operating examinations. The examiners reviewed the facility's training department's procedure OTG 20, "Examination Security Measures," and actual practices to ensure examination security and integrity.

b. Observations and Findings

The facility training staff developed the operating test and written examination in accordance with NUREG 1021, Revision 8. The examiners reviewed the proposed examinations making modifications as needed. The NRC administered the approved operating tests during the period of July 10 - 18, 2000. The facility training staff administered the approved written examination on July 20, 2000. There were no findings regarding examination security.

All seven RO and four SRO applicants passed both examinations. Details of each applicant's deficiencies are described in the individual's examination report, Form ES-303-1, "Operator Licensing Examination Report." Copies of the evaluations have been forwarded under separate cover to the Training Manager in order to enable the licensee to evaluate these deficiencies, and provide appropriate remedial training for those operators as necessary.

The licensee submitted the as-given written examinations (ADAMS Accession Number ML003737683). There were no post-examination comments submitted by the licensee.

4OA6 Management Meetings

Exit Meeting Summary

The Chief Examiner presented the preliminary examination results to J. Forbes, Station Manager and to members of licensee management on July 19, 2000. The licensee acknowledged the examination results presented.

The inspectors asked the licensee whether any materials examined during the inspection should be considered proprietary. No proprietary information was identified.

PARTIAL LIST OF PERSONS CONTACTED

Licensee

J. Forbes, Station Manager
B. Foster, Safety Assurance Manager
B. Jones, Training Manager
L. Nicholson, Regulatory Compliance Manager
R. Robinson, Operations Representative
J. Smith, Regulatory Compliance Specialist
J. Steely, Initial Training Supervisor
P. Stovall, Manager Operator Training

SIMULATION FACILITY REPORT

Facility Licensee: Oconee Nuclear Station Units 1, 2 and 3

Facility Docket Nos.: 50-269/2000-301, 50-270/2000-301 and 50-287/2000-301

Operating Tests Administered on: July 10 - 18, 2000

This form is to be used only to report observations. These observations do not constitute audit or inspection findings and are not, without further verification and review, indicative of noncompliance with 10 CFR 55.45(b). These observations do not affect NRC certification or approval of the simulation facility other than to provide information that may be used in future evaluations. While conducting the simulator portion of the operating tests, no fidelity or configuration items were observed.