



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
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February 14, 2003

J. V. Parrish (Mail Drop 1023)
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**SUBJECT: COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION - NOTIFICATION OF NRC INITIAL
OPERATOR LICENSING RETAKE EXAMINATION (EXAMINATION
REPORT 50-397/03-301)**

In a telephone conversation on February 13, 2003, between Mr. Randy Guthrie, Manager of Operations Training, and Mr. Anthony Gody, Chief, Operations Branch, arrangements were made for the administration of a written licensing retake examination at the Columbia Generating Station on March 27, 2003.

As agreed during the telephone conversation, your staff will prepare the examination based on the guidelines in Revision 8, Supplement 1, of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." The NRC regional office will discuss with your staff any changes that might be necessary before the examination is administered.

To meet the above schedule, it will be necessary for your staff to furnish the examination outline, the written examination, and the supporting reference materials identified in Attachment 2 of ES-201, which have had significant revisions since your October 2002 initial operator licensing examinations, by March 10, 2003. Pursuant to 10 CFR 55.40(b)(3), an authorized representative of the facility licensee shall approve the outline and examination before they are submitted to the NRC for review and approval. All materials shall be complete and ready to use. Any delay in receiving the required examination and reference materials, or the submittal of inadequate or incomplete materials, may cause the examinations to be rescheduled. Please send these materials to the attention of Howard Bundy, Chief Examiner.

Appendix E of NUREG-1021 contains a number of NRC policies and guidelines that will be in effect while the written examination is being administered.

To permit timely NRC review and evaluation, your staff should submit preliminary reactor operator and senior reactor operator license applications (Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval number 3150-0090), medical certifications (OMB approval number 3150-0024), and waiver requests (if any) (OMB approval number 3150-0090) on February 27, 2003. If the applications are not received by the aforementioned date, a postponement may be necessary. Signed applications certifying that all training has been completed should be submitted at least 14 days before the first examination date.

This letter contains information collections 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, which expires on April 30, 2003.

The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 500 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining the data needed, writing the examinations, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments on any aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Information and Records Management Branch (T-6 F33), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, or by Internet electronic mail at BJS1@NRC.GOV; and to the Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, NEOB-10202, (3150-0018), Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

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

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosure(s), and your response will be made 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/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Mr. Randy Gutherie 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 Mr. Howard Bundy at (817)860-8172, or me at (817)860-8159.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Anthony T. Gody, Chief
Operations Branch
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