



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
REGION II
245 PEACHTREE CENTER AVENUE NE, SUITE 1200
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-1257

February 10, 2012

Mr. Joseph W. Shea
Manager, Corp. Nuclear Licensing Programs
Tennessee Valley Authority
1101 Market Street, LP 4B-C
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

SUBJECT: BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT - NOTIFICATION OF LICENSED
OPERATOR INITIAL EXAMINATION 05000259/2012301, 05000260/2012301
AND 05000296/2012301

Dear Mr. Shea:

In a telephone conversation on February 07, 2012, between Mr. Michael D. Gibson, Lead Examiner, and Mr. Richard S. Baldwin, Senior Operations Engineer, arrangements were made for the administration of licensing examinations at Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant. The operating test is scheduled to be administered during the weeks of May 7, and May 14, 2012. The written examination is scheduled to be administered the week of May 21, 2012. The on-site preparatory week is scheduled for the week of April 16, 2012.

As agreed during the telephone conversation, your staff will prepare both the operating test and written examination based on the guidelines in Revision 9, Supplement 1, of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) regional office will discuss with your staff any changes that might be necessary before the examinations are administered. Your staff has also agreed to make copies of all examination materials that are necessary for administering the examination.

To meet the above schedule, it will be necessary for your staff to furnish the operating test outline by February 27, 2012. Mr. Richard S. Baldwin provided the written examination outline to your staff in October, 2011. The operating test, written examination, and the supporting reference materials identified in Attachment 3 to ES-201 will be due by March 23, 2012. 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 outline, examination, and test 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. 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.

In order to conduct the requested written examinations and operating tests, it will be necessary for your staff to provide adequate space and accommodations in accordance with ES-402, and to make the simulation facility available on the dates noted above. In accordance with ES-302, your staff should retain the original simulator performance data (e.g., system pressures, temperatures, and levels) generated during the dynamic operating tests until the examination results are final.

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

To permit timely NRC review and evaluation, your staff should submit preliminary reactor operator and senior reactor operator license applications, medical certifications, and waiver requests (if any) at least 30 days before the first examination date. If the applications are not received at least 30 days before the examination 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 (OMB) under approval number 3150-0018, which expires on February 28, 2013. The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 500 for examinations prepared by the facility, 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 infocollectsresource@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 neither conduct nor sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, an information collection, unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of the NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm.adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Mr. Gibson 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. Richard S. Baldwin at (404) 997-4642, (Internet E-mail: Richard.Baldwin@nrc.gov), or me at (404) 997-4436, (Internet E-mail: Mark.Franke@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

/RA: Joel Munday for/

Mark A. Franke, Chief
Operations Branch 1
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. DPR-33, DPR52, DPR-68
License Nos. 50-259, 50-260, 50-296

cc: See Page 4

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Mr. Gibson 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. Richard S. Baldwin at (404) 997-4642, (Internet E-mail: Richard.Baldwin@nrc.gov), or me at (404) 997-4436, (Internet E-mail: Mark.Franke@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

/RA: Joel Munday/

Mark A. Franke, Chief
Operations Branch 1
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. DPR-33, DPR52, DPR-68
License Nos. 50-259, 50-260, 50-296

cc: See Page 4

☒ PUBLICLY AVAILABLE

☐ NON-PUBLICLY AVAILABLE

☐ SENSITIVE

☒ NON-SENSITIVE

ADAMS:x ☐ Yes ACCESSION NUMBER: ML120440372

☐ SUNSI REVIEW COMPLETE ☐ FORM 665 ATTACHED

OFFICE	RII:DRS	RII:DRS					
SIGNATURE	RA	RA					
NAME	RBALDWIN	MFRANKE					
DATE	2/ 10/2012	2/ 10 /2012					
E-MAIL COPY?	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY DOCUMENT NAME: G:\OLEXAMS\BROWNS FERRY EXAMINATIONS\BF 2012-301 INITIAL EXAM (RICK)\CORRESPONDENCE\BROWNS FERRY 2012 301 INITIAL 120 DAY LETTER.DOCX

cc:

K. J. Polson
Site Vice President
Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant
Tennessee Valley Authority
Electronic Mail Distribution

C.J. Gannon
General Manager
Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant
Tennessee Valley Authority
Electronic Mail Distribution

J. E. Emens
Manager, Licensing
Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant
Tennessee Valley Authority
Electronic Mail Distribution

Manager, Corporate Nuclear Licensing -
BFN
Tennessee Valley Authority
Electronic Mail Distribution

E. J. Vigluicci
Assistant General Counsel
Tennessee Valley Authority
Electronic Mail Distribution

T. A. Hess
Tennessee Valley Authority
Electronic Mail Distribution

Chairman
Limestone County Commission
310 West Washington Street
Athens, AL 35611

Donald E. Williamson
State Health Officer
Alabama Dept. of Public Health
RSA Tower - Administration
Suite 1552
P.O. Box 30317
Montgomery, AL 36130-3017

James L. McNees, CHP
Director
Office of Radiation Control
Alabama Dept. of Public Health
P. O. Box 303017
Montgomery, AL 36130-3017

Senior Resident Inspector
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant
10833 Shaw Road
Athens, AL 35611-6970

Mr. Jeff Morris
Training Manager
Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant
Tennessee Valley Authority
P. O. Box 2000
Decatur, AL 35609-2000

Letter to Joseph W. Shea from Mark F. Franke dated February 10, 2012.

SUBJECT: BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT - NOTIFICATION OF LICENSED
OPERATOR INITIAL EXAMINATION 05000259/2012301, 05000260/2012301 AND
05000296/2012301

Distribution:

RIDSNRRDIRS

PUBLIC

RidsNrrPMBrownsFerry Resource