



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I**
2100 RENAISSANCE BOULEVARD, SUITE 100
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406-2713

June 10, 2013

Christopher Costanzo, Site Vice President
Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, LLC
P.O. Box 63
Lycoming, NY 13093-0063

**SUBJECT: NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 1 - NRC INITIAL
OPERATOR LICENSING EXAMINATION REPORT 05000220/2013301**

Dear Mr. Costanzo:

On May 21, 2013, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed an examination at Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit 1. The enclosed report documents the examination findings, which were discussed on June 4, 2013, with Jeffrey Gerber, Training Manager, and other members of your staff.

The examination included the evaluation of eight applicants for reactor operator licenses, five applicants for instant senior operator licenses, and two applicants for upgrade senior operator licenses. The written and operating examinations were developed using NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 9, Supplement 1. The license examiners determined that all applicants satisfied the requirements of 10 CFR Part 55, and the appropriate licenses were issued on June 3, 2013.

No findings were identified during this examination.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure 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 Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams/web-based.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Sincerely,

/RA/

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

Christopher Costanzo, Site Vice President
Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, LLC
P.O. Box 63
Lycoming, NY 13093-0063

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

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C. Costanzo

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Docket No. 50-220
License No. DPR-63

Enclosure: NRC Initial Operator Licensing
Examination Report 05000220/2013301
w/Attachment: Supplemental Information

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EXAMINATION REPORT

**U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I**

Dockets: 50-220

Licenses: DPR-63

Report : 05000220/2013301

Licensee: Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, LLC

Facility: Nine Mile Point, Unit 1

Location: P.O. Box 63
Lycoming, NY 13093-0063

Dates: May 13-17, 2013 (Operating Test Administration)
May 21, 2013 (Written Examination Administration)
May 28, 2013 (Licensee Submitted Post Exam Package)
May 20-30, 2013 (NRC Examination Grading)
June 3, 2013 (Licenses Issued)

Examiners: T. Fish, Chief Examiner, Operations Branch
B. Fuller, Operations Engineer
M. Patel, Operations Engineer
T. Hedigan, Operations Engineer

Approved By: Donald E. Jackson, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

ER 05000220/2013301; May 13-17, 2013, and May 21, 2013; Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit 1; Initial Operator Licensing Examination Report.

NRC examiners evaluated the competency of eight applicants for reactor operator licenses, five applicants for instant senior operator licenses, and two applicants for upgrade senior operator licenses at the Unit 1 facility. The facility licensee developed the examinations using NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 9, Supplement 1. The written examination was administered by the facility on May 21, 2013. NRC examiners administered the operating tests on May 13-17, 2013. The license examiners determined that all applicants satisfied the requirements of 10 CFR Part 55, and the appropriate licenses have been issued.

A. NRC-Identified and Self-Revealing Findings

No findings were identified.

B. Licensee-Identified Violations

None.

REPORT DETAILS

4. OTHER ACTIVITIES (OA)

4OA5 Other Activities (Initial Operator License Examination)

.1 License Applications

a. Scope

The examiners reviewed all 15 license applications submitted by the licensee to ensure the applications reflected that each applicant satisfied relevant license eligibility requirements. The applications were submitted on NRC Form 398, "Personal Qualification Statement," and NRC Form 396, "Certification of Medical Examination by Facility Licensee." The examiners also audited four of the license applications in detail to confirm that they accurately reflected the subject applicant's qualifications. This audit focused on each applicant's experience and on-the-job training, including control manipulations that provided significant reactivity changes.

b. Findings

No findings were identified.

.2 Operator Knowledge and Performance

a. Examination Scope

On May 21, 2013, the licensee proctored the administration of the written examinations to all 15 applicants. The licensee staff graded the written examinations, analyzed the results, and presented their analysis to the NRC on May 28, 2013.

The NRC examination team administered the various portions of the operating examination to all 15 applicants on May 13-17, 2013. The eight applicants for reactor operator licenses participated in at least two dynamic simulator scenarios, in a control room and facilities walkthrough test consisting of 11 system tasks, and an administrative test consisting of four administrative tasks. The five applicants seeking an instant senior operator license participated in at least two dynamic simulator scenarios, a control room and facilities walkthrough test consisting of 10 system tasks, and an administrative test consisting of five administrative tasks. The two applicants for upgrade senior operator licenses participated in two dynamic simulator scenarios, a control room and facilities walkthrough test consisting of five system tasks, and an administrative test consisting of five administrative tasks.

b. Findings

All of the applicants passed all parts of the operating test and the written examination. For the written examinations, the reactor operator applicants' average score was 88.50 percent and ranged from 84.00 to 96.00 percent; the senior operator applicants'

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average score was 90.29 percent and ranged from 84.00 to 98.00 percent. The text of the examination questions and the licensee's examination analysis may be accessed in the ADAMS system under the accession numbers noted in Attachment 1. In accordance with current NRC policy, the release of this written examination in ADAMS to the public will be delayed for 2 years.

Chapter ES-403 and Form ES-403-1 of NUREG 1021 require the licensee to analyze the validity of any written examination questions that were missed by half or more of the applicants. The licensee conducted this performance analysis for four questions that met this criterion and submitted the analysis to the chief examiner. The analysis determined the questions were valid as written, and that no changes to the exam were necessary.

.3 Initial Licensing Examination Development

a. Examination Scope

The facility licensee developed the examinations in accordance with NUREG-1021, Revision 9, Supplement 1. All licensee facility training and operations staff involved in examination preparation and validation were listed on a security agreement. The facility licensee submitted both the written and operating examination outlines on February 20, 2013. The chief examiner reviewed the outlines against the requirements of NUREG-1021, and provided comments to the licensee. The facility licensee submitted the draft examination package on March 15, 2013. The chief examiner reviewed the draft examination package against the requirements of NUREG-1021, and provided comments to the licensee on the examination on March 29, 2013. The NRC conducted an onsite validation of the operating examinations and provided further comments during the week of April 1, 2013. The licensee satisfactorily completed comment resolution on April 9, 2013.

b. Findings

The NRC approved the initial examination outline and advised the licensee to proceed with examination development.

The examiners determined that the written and operating examinations initially submitted by the licensee were within the range of acceptability expected for a proposed examination.

No findings were identified.

.4 Simulation Facility Performance

a. Examination Scope

The examiners observed simulator performance with regard to plant fidelity during the examination validation and administration.

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b. Findings

No findings were identified.

.5 Examination Security

a. Examination Scope

The examiners reviewed examination security for examination development and during both the onsite preparation week and examination administration week for compliance with NUREG-1021 requirements. Plans for simulator security and applicant control were reviewed and discussed with licensee personnel.

b. Findings

No findings were identified.

4OA6 Meetings, Including Exit

The chief examiner presented the examination results to Messrs. Jeffrey Gerber, Training Manager, and other members of the licensee's management staff on June 4, 2013. The licensee acknowledged the findings presented.

The licensee did not identify any information or materials used during the examination as proprietary.

Attachment:
Supplemental Information

Enclosure

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

KEY POINTS OF CONTACT

Licensee Personnel

D. Britt, Operations Training Supervisor
P. Isham, Lead Exam Developer

ITEMS OPENED, CLOSED, AND DISCUSSED

None

ADAMS DOCUMENTS REFERENCED

Accession No. ML13154A257 – FINAL-Written Exam (Note: In accordance with current NRC policy, the release of this written examination in ADAMS to the public will be delayed for two years.)
Accession No. ML13154A270 – FINAL-Operating Exam