



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

October 17, 2019

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

SUBJECT: HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION – INITIAL OPERATOR
LICENSING EXAMINATION REPORT 05000354/2019301

Dear Mr. Carr:

On August 21, 2019, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed an examination at Hope Creek. The enclosed examination report documents the examination results, which were discussed on October 1, 2019, with Mr. S. Nevelos, Operations Training Manager, and other members of your staff.

The examination included the evaluation of three applicants for reactor operator licenses, four applicants for instant senior reactor operator licenses, and two applicants for upgrade senior reactor operator licenses. The written and operating examinations were developed using NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 11. The license examiners determined that all nine applicants satisfied the requirements of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 55, and the appropriate licenses were issued on October 1, 2019.

No findings were identified during this examination.

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Documents Access Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC website <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Sincerely,

/RA/

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

Docket No. 50-354
License No. NPF-57

Enclosure:
Examination Report 05000354/2019301
w/Attachment: Supplementary Information

cc w/encl: Distribution via ListServ

SUBJECT: HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION – INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSING
EXAMINATION REPORT 05000354/2019301 DATED OCTOBER 17, 2019

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

Docket No. 50-354

License No. NPF-57

Report No. 05000354/2019301

Licensee: PSEG Nuclear LLC

Enterprise Identifier: L-2019-OLL-0016

Facility: Hope Creek

Location: Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

Dates: August 12-16, 2019 (Operating Test Administration)
August 21, 2019 (Written Examination Administration)
September 10, 2019 (Licensee Submitted Post Exam Package)
September 16-23, 2019 (NRC Examination Grading)
October 1, 2019 (Licenses Issued)

Examiners: T. Setzer, Chief Examiner, Operations Branch
T. Fish, Senior Operations Engineer
T. Hedigan, Operations Engineer
C. Lally, Operations Engineer

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

Enclosure

SUMMARY

ER 05000354/2019301; 08/12/2019 – 08/21/2019; Hope Creek; Initial Operator Licensing Examination Report.

Four NRC examiners evaluated the competency of three applicants for reactor operator licenses, four applicants for instant senior reactor operator licenses, and two applicants for upgrade senior reactor operator licenses. The facility developed the examinations using NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 11.

The written examination was administered by the facility on August 21, 2019. NRC examiners administered the operating tests August 12–16, 2019. The NRC examiners determined that all nine applicants satisfied the requirements of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 55, and the appropriate licenses have been issued.

No findings were identified.

REPORT DETAILS

4. OTHER ACTIVITIES (OA)

4OA5 Other Activities Initial Operator License Examination

.1 License Applications

a. Scope

The examiners reviewed all 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 the license applications in detail to confirm that they accurately reflected the subject applicant's qualifications. This audit focused on the 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 August 21, 2019, the licensee proctored the administration of the written examinations to all applicants. The licensee staff graded the written examinations, analyzed the results, and presented their analysis to the NRC on September 10, 2019.

The NRC examination team administered the various portions of the operating examination to all applicants on August 12–16, 2019. The 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 applicants seeking an instant senior reactor 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 applicants seeking an upgrade senior reactor license 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 nine applicants passed all parts of the operating test and the written examination. For the written examinations, the reactor operator applicants' average score was 92.0 percent and ranged from 89.3 to 94.7 percent, the senior operator applicants' average score was 95.8 percent and ranged from 93.0 to 100 percent. The text of the examination questions may be accessed in the ADAMS system under the accession

numbers noted in the Attachment. In accordance with current NRC policy, the release of this written examination in ADAMS to the public will be delayed for two 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. Licensee training staff performed this analysis and forwarded it to the chief examiner.

.3 Initial Licensing Examination Development

a. Examination Scope

The facility developed the examinations in accordance with NUREG-1021, Revision 11. All licensee facility training and operations staff involved in examination preparation and validation were listed on a security agreement. The NRC developed the written exam outline and provided it to the licensee on September 27, 2018. The facility licensee submitted the operating examination outline on March 13, 2019. The chief examiner reviewed the outline against the requirements of NUREG-1021, and provided comments to the licensee. The facility licensee submitted the draft examination package on June 13, 2019. The chief examiner reviewed the draft examination package against the requirements of NUREG-1021, and provided comments to the licensee. The NRC conducted an onsite validation of the operating examinations and provided further comments during the week of July 15–19, 2019. The licensee satisfactorily completed comment resolution on July 26, 2019.

b. Findings

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.

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, Revision 11 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 Mr. S. Nevelos, Operations Training Manager, and other members of the licensee's staff on October 1, 2019. The licensee acknowledged the results presented.

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

ATTACHMENT: SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

KEY POINTS OF CONTACT

Licensee Personnel

D. Rein, Exam Author

P. Breidenbach, Exam Author

S. Dennis, Exam Author

ITEMS OPENED, CLOSED, AND DISCUSSED

None

ADAMS DOCUMENTS REFERENCED

Accession No. ML19282A574 – 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 2.5 years.)

Accession No. ML19282A572 – FINAL-Operating Exam (Note: In accordance with current NRC policy, the release of this operating examination in ADAMS to the public will be delayed for 2.5 years.)