



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

December 9, 2019

Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc
ATTN: Mr. John G. Austin
Training Director
Farley Nuclear Plant
P. O. Box 470
Ashford, AL 36312

SUBJECT: JOSEPH M. FARLEY NUCLEAR PLANT – NOTIFICATION OF LICENSED
OPERATOR RETAKE EXAMINATION 05000348/2020302 AND
05000364/2020302

Dear Mr. Austin:

During a telephone conversation on December 3, 2019, between Mr. Vince Richter, Nuclear Ops Plant Instr., Lead – Initial Programs and Stanley Jackson, Exam Writer and Mr. David Dumbacher, Chief examiner, arrangements were made for the administration of a retake licensing examination at the Farley Nuclear Plant. The on-site preparatory week and Admin JPM portion of the operating test is scheduled for the week of February 10, 2020.

As agreed during the telephone conversation, your staff will prepare the Admin JPM portion of the operating test based on the guidelines in Revision 11 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 examination is 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 JPM outlines by December 20, 2019. The JPM portion of the operating test and the supporting reference materials identified in Attachment 3 to ES-201 will be due by January 16, 2020. 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 Admin portion of the operating test, it will be necessary for your staff to provide adequate space and accommodations in accordance with ES-402 on the dates noted above.

Appendix E of NUREG-1021 contains a number of NRC policies and guidelines that will be in effect while the Admin JPM portion of the operating test is being administered.

To permit timely NRC review and evaluation, your staff should submit preliminary senior reactor operator waiver and/or excusal requests (Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval number 3150-0090) at least 60 days before the first examination date (if possible). Contact Mr. David Dumbacher to determine the method for submission of the waiver or excusal requests. Preliminary reactor operator and senior reactor operator license applications (OMB approval number 3150-0090) and medical certifications (OMB approval number 3150-0024) should be submitted 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. Final signed applications certifying that all training has been completed and requesting any waivers or excusals, as applicable, should be submitted at least 14 days before the first examination date.

Although the guidelines for receiving waiver or excusal requests call for at least 30 days before the first examination date (preliminary) and 14 days before the first examination date (final), the requests should be submitted as early as possible in the process (see the 60-day guideline above). Resolutions resulting from verbal inquiries by the licensee to the NRC are not binding. Submittals addressing waivers or excusals, or both, should be in writing (i.e., using NRC Form 398, "Personal Qualifications Statement—Licensee," or as directed by Mr. Dumbacher when contacting him to determine the method for submission). The NRC will document its final decision on whether to grant a waiver or excusal on the final (not preliminary) NRC Form 398 submitted for the applicant. The NRC will not provide its decision until the final application is submitted to the agency.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement

This letter contains information collection requirements 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.

The burden to the public for these mandatory information collections is estimated to average 2,250 hours per examination, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the information collections. You may submit comments on any aspect of the information collections, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to FOIA, Privacy and Information Collections Branch (T-5 F53), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, or by electronic mail to infocollects.resource@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.

Public Protection Notification

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

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390, "Public Inspections, Exemptions, Requests for Withholding," of the agency's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be available electronically for public inspection through the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Mr. Vince Richter 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. David Dumbacher at (404) 997-4628, (Internet E-mail: David.Dumbacher@nrc.gov or me at (404) 997-4551, (Internet E-mail: Gerald.mccoy@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

/RA/

Gerald F. McCoy, Chief
Operations Branch 1
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. : 50-348, 50-364
License Nos. : NPF-2, NPF-8

Cc : Distribution via Listserv

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☒ PUBLICLY AVAILABLE ☐ NON-PUBLICLY AVAILABLE ☐ SENSITIVE ☒ NON-SENSITIVE
ADAMS: ☒ Yes ACCESSION NUMBER: **ML19343A312** ☒ SUNSI REVIEW COMPLETE ☐ FORM 665
ATTACHED

OFFICE	RII:DRS/OB1	RII:DRS/OB1	RII:DRS/OB1	
NAME	D. Egelstad	D. Dumbacher	G. McCoy	
DATE	12/6/2019	12/6/2019	12/6/2019	
E-MAIL COPY?	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY