

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION III

Docket No. 50-346
License No. NPF-3

Report No. 50-346/OL-96-02

Licensee: Centerior Service Company

Facility: Davis Besse Nuclear Generating Station

Location: 300 Madison Avenue
Toledo, OH 43652

Dates: August 29, 1996

Examiner: C. Osterholtz

Approved by: M. N. Leach, Chief
Operator Licensing Branch

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Davis Besse Nuclear Generating Station
Examination Report No. 50-346/OL-96-02

Initial licensed operator retake examinations (administrative area only) were administered to four (4) candidates at the Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) level.

Results: All applicants failed the examination and will be denied licenses.

Summary: The applicants did not perform at the level of competency expected by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. This is indicated by the 100% failure rate of the SROs. The examination consisted of five job performance measures (JPM's) which tested the administrative requirements associated with the SRO license. The following is a brief summary of candidate performance:

None of the candidates were able to accurately calculate and interpret a manual heat balance calculation. Two of the four candidates could not accurately calculate an estimated critical position (ECP), and two of the four candidates could not correctly interpret piping and instrumentation drawings to verify system isolation for safety tagging purposes.

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Report Details

Summary of Examination Status

Four SRO candidates were administered retake initial examinations in the administrative area at the Davis Besse Nuclear Generating Station on August 29, 1996. The reexamination was administered in accordance with NUREG-1021, Revision 7, "Operator Licensing Examiner Standards."

05 **Operator Training and Qualification**

05.3 Examination Administration and Support

Candidate performance on the administrative retake examination resulted in four individual failures.

Section A.1.1:

- The candidates were required to calculate a secondary heat balance manually, without the aid of the plant computer, using only control room (simulator) indications in accordance with DB-NE-03230, "RPS Daily Heat Balance Check", to determine core thermal power and verify nuclear instrumentation (NI) operability. Three of the four candidates calculated the heat balance correctly, but did not recognize that the nuclear instruments were not properly calibrated to this value. Of these three, one individual did not recognize that thermal power level was excessively high (100.9%) and should be reduced. Additionally, one candidate inadvertently initiated an automatic reactor trip while collecting plant data and was unable to complete the calculation.

Section A.1.2

- The candidates were required to calculate an estimated critical rod position (ECP) without the aid of the plant computer, using only control room (simulator) data in accordance with DB-NE-06202, "Reactivity Balance Calculations". Two of the four candidates errantly calculated the estimated critical rod worth, which led to subsequent miscalculations for the upper and lower rod index limits.

Section A.2

- The candidates were required to approve a clearance for decay heat pump (DHP) 1-1 and determine, using piping and instrumentation drawings (P&ID's), that an additional valve needed to be tagged shut (DH-10) to isolate the pump from the Borated Water Storage Tank (BWST). Two of the four candidates were unable to determine from P&ID's that a flow path existed from the BWST to DHP 1-1 with DH-10 open.

05.4 Simulator Observations

No simulator performance deficiencies were identified during the validation and administration of the operating examination.

Management Meetings

X1 **Exit Meeting Summary**

The examiner presented his observations and findings to members of licensee management at the conclusion of the examination on August 30, 1996. The licensee acknowledged the findings presented. No proprietary information was identified during the examination or at the exit meeting.

X1.1 Partial List of Persons Contacted

Licensee:

D. Eshelman, Manager, Operations
J. Freels, Manager, Regulatory Affairs
W. Molpus, Manager, Nuclear Training
R. Simpkins, Operations Training Supervisor

NRC

S. Stasek, Senior Resident Inspector
K. Zellers, Resident Inspector

SIMULATION FACILITY REPORT

Facility Licensee: Davis Besse Nuclear Generating Station

Facility Licensee Docket No: 50-346

Operating Tests Administered: August 29, 1996

The following documents observations made by the NRC examination team during the May 1996, initial license examination. These observations do not constitute audit or inspection findings and are not, without further verification and review, indicative of non-compliance with 10 CFR 55.45(b). These observations do not affect NRC certification or approval of the simulation facility other than to provide information which may be used in future evaluations. No licensee action is required in response to these observations.

During the conduct of the simulator portion of the operating tests, the following item was observed:

ITEM	DESCRIPTION
NONE IDENTIFIED	