



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION IV  
1600 EAST LAMAR BOULEVARD  
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4511

January 19, 2022

Mr. Cleve Reasoner, Chief Executive Officer  
and Chief Nuclear Officer  
Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation  
P.O. Box 411  
Burlington, KS 66839

SUBJECT: WOLF CREEK GENERATING STATION - NRC EXAMINATION REPORT  
05000482/2021301

Dear Mr. Reasoner:

On December 7, 2021, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed an initial operator license examination at your Wolf Creek Generating Station. The enclosed report documents the examination results and licensing decisions. The preliminary examination results were discussed on November 4, 2021, with Mr. E. Martinson, Director of Maintenance, and other members of your staff. A telephonic exit meeting was conducted on December 7, 2021, with Mr. B. Bayer, Plant Manager, who was provided the NRC licensing decisions.

The examination included the evaluation of five applicants for reactor operator licenses, one applicant for instant senior reactor operator license and four applicants for upgrade senior reactor operator licenses. The license examiners determined that all 10 applicants satisfied the requirements of 10 CFR Part 55, and the appropriate licenses have been issued. There were no post-examination comments submitted by your staff. The enclosure contains details of this report.

No findings were identified during this examination.

This letter, its enclosure, and your response (if any) will be made available for public inspection and copying at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> and at the NRC Public Document Room in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390, "Public Inspections, Exemptions, Requests for Withholding."

Sincerely,



Signed by Gepford, Heather  
on 01/19/22

Heather J. Gepford, Ph.D., Chief  
Operations Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No. 05000482  
License No. NPF-42

Enclosure:  
Examination Report 05000482/2021301  
w/attachment: Supplemental Information

cc: Electronic Distribution to Wolf Creek

WOLF CREEK GENERATING STATION - NRC EXAMINATION REPORT 05000482/2021301  
DATED – JANUARY 19, 2002

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ADAMS ACCESSION NUMBER: ML22018A312

☒ SUNSI Review: ADAMS: ☐ Non-Publicly Available ☒ Non-Sensitive Keyword:  
By: MSD ☒ Yes ☐ No ☒ Publicly Available ☐ Sensitive NRC-002

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**U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
**Inspection Report**

Docket Number: 05000482

License Number: NPF-42

Report Number: 05000482/2021301

Enterprise Identifier: 05000482/L-2021-OLL-0018

Licensee: Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation

Facility: Wolf Creek Generating Station

Location: Burlington, Kansas

Inspection Dates: November 1, 2021, to December 7, 2021

Inspectors: C. Osterholtz, Sr. Operations Engineer (Chief)  
M. Doyle, Operations Engineer (Chief Under Instruction)  
T. Farina, Sr. Operations Engineer  
J. Kirkland, Sr. Operations Engineer

Approved By: Heather J. Gepford, Ph.D.  
Chief, Operations Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

Enclosure

## SUMMARY

Examination Report 05000482/2021301; Wolf Creek Generating Station; Initial Operator Licensing Examination Report

The NRC examiners evaluated the competency of five applicants for reactor operator licenses, one applicant for instant senior reactor operator license, and four applicants for upgrade senior reactor operator licenses at Wolf Creek Generating Station.

The licensee developed the examinations using NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 11. The written examination was administered by the licensee on October 27, 2021. The NRC examiners administered the operating tests on November 1-4, 2021.

The NRC 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

None.

B. Licensee-Identified Violations

None.

## REPORT DETAILS

### OTHER ACTIVITIES – INITIAL LICENSE EXAMINATION

#### .1 License Applications

##### a. Scope

The NRC examiners reviewed all license applications submitted to ensure each applicant satisfied relevant license eligibility requirements. The NRC examiners also audited three of the license applications in detail to confirm that they accurately reflected the subject applicant's qualifications. This audit focused on the applicants' experience and on-the-job training, including control manipulations that provided significant reactivity changes.

##### b. Findings

No findings were identified.

#### .2 Examination Development

##### a. Scope

The NRC examiners reviewed integrated examination outlines and draft examinations submitted by the licensee against the requirements of NUREG-1021. The NRC examiners conducted an onsite validation of the operating tests.

##### b. Findings

The NRC examiners provided outline, draft examination, and post-validation comments to the licensee. The licensee satisfactorily completed comment resolution prior to examination administration.

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

#### .3 Operator Knowledge and Performance

##### a. Scope

On October 27, 2021, 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 November 4, 2021.

The NRC examination team administered the various portions of the operating tests to all applicants on November 1-4, 2021.

##### b. Findings

No findings were identified.

All applicants passed the written examination and all parts of the operating tests. The final written examinations and post-examination analysis may be accessed in the ADAMS system under the accession numbers noted in the attachment. There were no post-examination comments as indicated in the licensee submittal.

The examination team noted two generic weaknesses associated with applicant performance on the administrative job performance measures section and simulator section of the operating tests. The applicants displayed a weakness in reviewing clearance orders by the senior reactor operators and operating the rod control system to realign a misaligned control rod. Post-examination analysis revealed four generic weaknesses associated with applicant performance on the written examination. Specifically, applicants displayed weakness on the following topics:

- Responding to an inadvertent actuation of auxiliary feedwater
- Knowledge of system precautions, and limitations for performing a waste gas decay tank release
- Ability to operate or monitor the alternating current distribution system as it applies to safety injection termination
- Ability to predict reactivity changes using normal operating procedures.

These deficiencies were captured in the licensee's corrective action program as Condition Report(s) 10010317, 10010327, and 10010325. Copies of all individual examination reports were sent to the facility training manager for evaluation and determination of appropriate remedial training.

#### .4 Simulation Facility Performance

##### a. Scope

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

##### b. Findings

No findings were identified.

#### .5 Examination Security

##### a. Scope

The NRC examiners reviewed examination security for examination development during both the onsite preparation week and examination administration week for compliance with 10 CFR 55.49 and NUREG-1021. Plans for examination security and applicant control were reviewed and discussed with licensee personnel.

##### b. Findings

No findings were identified.

## **EXIT MEETINGS AND DEBRIEFS**

### Exit Meeting Summary

Mr. M. Doyle, Chief Examiner Under Instruction, presented the preliminary examination results to Mr. E. Martinson, Director of Maintenance, and other members of the staff on November 4, 2021. A telephonic exit was conducted on December 7, 2021, between Mr. M. Doyle and Mr. B. Bayer, Plant Manager. The licensee did not identify any information or materials used during the examination as proprietary.



## **SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

### **KEY POINTS OF CONTACT**

#### **Licensee Personnel**

B.J. Bayer, Plant Manager  
Eric Martinson, Director of Maintenance  
Eric Carlson, Operations Director  
Dan Bowers, Training Director  
Ron Benham, Director of Nuclear Regulatory Affairs  
James Knapp, Operations Training Manager  
Josh Turner, Regulatory Affairs Manager  
Jeff Isch, Superintendent Operations  
Tim Dunlop, Operations Superintendent Training  
Tim Slenker, Superintendent Operations  
Jon Weber, Operations Shift Manager  
Michelle Meyer, Operations Training LOR LSI  
Jack Myers, LSI Initial  
Andy Servaes, Exam Author  
Josh Bousum, Exam Author

#### **NRC Personnel**

C. Henderson, Senior Resident Inspector

### **ADAMS DOCUMENTS REFERENCED**

Accession No. ML22010A156 - FINAL WRITTEN EXAMS  
Accession No. ML22010A157 - FINAL OPERATING TEST  
Accession No. ML22010A158 - POST-EXAMINATION ANALYSIS