



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
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March 20, 2001

Mr. J. V. Parrish (Mail Drop 1023)
Chief Executive Officer
Energy Northwest
P.O. Box 968
Richland, Washington 99352-0968

**SUBJECT: COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION - RETAKE EXAMINATION REPORT
NO. 50-397/01-301**

Dear Mr. Parrish:

On February 22, 2001, the NRC completed a retake examination at your Columbia Generating Station facility. The enclosed report documents the examination results, which were discussed with Mr. R. Guthrie, Operations Training Supervisor, and other members of your staff on February 22, 2001.

The inspection included an evaluation of one applicant for reactor operator license and one applicant for a senior operator license. We determined that both applicants for operator and senior operator licenses satisfied the requirements of 10 CFR Part 55, and the appropriate licenses have been issued.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 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 (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/ADAMS/index.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Sincerely,

/RA/

Anthony T. Gody, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No.: 50-397
License No.: NPF-21

Enclosure:
NRC Inspection Report No.
50-397/00-301 w/attachment

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U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV

Docket No.: 50-397
License No.: NPF-21
Report No.: 50-397/01-301
Licensee: Energy Northwest
Facility: Columbia Generating Station
Location: Richland, Washington
Dates: February 22, 2000
Examiner: T. O. McKernon, Senior Operations Engineer, Operations Branch

Approved By: Anthony T. Gody, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

IR 05000397-01-301; on 2/22/2001; Energy Northwest; Columbia Generating Station Licensed Operator Retake Examinations.

NRC examiner evaluated the competency of one applicant for a reactor operator license and one applicant for a senior operator license at the Columbia Generating Station facility. The facility developed the written and operating examinations using NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 8, Supplement 1. The written examinations were administered to the applicants on the morning of February 22, 2001, by facility proctors in accordance with instructions provided by the chief examiner. The NRC examiner administered the retake operating test during the afternoon of February 22, 2001.

Cross-Cutting Issues: Human Performance

- Both applicants passed the retake examinations (Section 40A4.1).

Report Details

4. OTHER ACTIVITIES

4OA4 Retake License Examination

.1 Operator Knowledge and Performance

a. Inspection Scope

The licensee developed the written and operating examinations using facility training and operations staff on the security agreement to prepare and validate the examinations. On February 22, 2001, the licensee proctored the administration of the written examination to the two applicants. The licensee staff graded the written examinations, analyzed the results, and presented their evaluation to the NRC on March 1, 2001.

The examiner administered the operating examination to the one senior applicant on the afternoon of February 22, 2001. The examiner tested the applicant on five subjects in four administrative areas with administrative tasks. The other categories of the operating test were waived.

b. Findings

Both applicants passed the written examination. The reactor operator applicant scored 84 percent and the senior operator applicant scored 89 percent.

The licensee did not recommend any questions for modification during their post examination review. The final reference examination may be accessed in the ADAMS system under Accession No. ML010680246.

The one senior applicant passed the administrative portion of the operating examination.

.2 Initial Licensing Examination Development

The facility training staff developed the written and operating examinations in accordance with NUREG-1021, Revision 8, Supplement 1.

.2.1 Examination Outline and Examination Package

a. Inspection Scope

The facility licensee submitted the written and operating examination outlines and the draft examinations on January 22, 2001. The chief examiner reviewed the submittal against the requirements of NUREG-1021, Revision 8, Supplement 1, and provided comments to the licensee on February 1, 2001. The licensee incorporated any substantive comments and prepared the examination for administering on February 22, 2001.

b. Findings

Region IV approved the retake examination outlines and determined that the written and operating examinations initially submitted by the licensee were within the range of acceptability expected for a proposed examination.

2.3 Examination Security

a. Scope

The examiners reviewed examination security during the onsite examination administration week for compliance with NUREG-1021 requirements.

b. Findings

No findings were identified.

40A5 Management Meetings

Exit Meeting Summary

The examiner presented the inspection results to Mr. Randy Guthrie and other members of the licensee management at the conclusion of the inspection on February 22, 2001. The licensee acknowledged the findings presented.

The licensee did not identify as proprietary any information or materials examined during the inspection.

ATTACHMENT
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Licensee

R. Guthrie, Operations Training Supervisor
S. Hutchison, Contractor

NRC

G. Replogle, Senior Resident Inspector

ADAMS DOCUMENTS REFERENCED

<u>Accession No.:</u>	<u>Document Description</u>
ML010680246	Final Reference Examination