SUBJECT: JAMES A. FITZPATRICK NUCLEAR POWER PLANT - ANNUAL ASSESSMENT
LETTER 50-333/2003-001

Dear Mr. Sullivan:

On February 11, 2003, the NRC staff completed its end-of-cycle plant performance assessment of the James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant. The end-of-cycle review for FitzPatrick involved the participation of all technical divisions in evaluating performance indicators (PIs) for the most recent quarter and inspection results for the period from January 1 through December 31, 2002. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our assessment of your safety performance during this period and our plans for future inspections at your facility so that you will have an opportunity to prepare for these inspections and to inform us of any planned inspections that may conflict with your plant activities.

Overall, FitzPatrick operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety, and fully met all cornerstone objectives. Plant performance for the most recent quarter and during the previous three quarters was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC’s Action Matrix, based on all inspection findings being classified as having very low safety significance (Green) and all PIs indicating performance at a level requiring no additional NRC oversight (Green). Therefore, we plan to perform only baseline inspections at your facility through March 31, 2004.

As you are aware, since the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, the NRC has issued several Orders and threat advisories to enhance security capabilities and improve guard force readiness. We have conducted inspections to review your implementation of these requirements and have monitored your actions in response to changing threat conditions. For calendar year 2003, we plan to continue these inspections, conduct portions of the security baseline inspection program, as well as perform additional inspections to evaluate your compliance with new requirements that may be ordered. Based on our final determinations in this regard, we will notify you of any inspection plan changes.

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections scheduled through March 31, 2004. The inspection plan is provided to minimize the resource impact on your staff and to allow for scheduling conflicts and personnel availability to be resolved in advance of inspector arrival.
onsite. Routine resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature. The inspections in the last six months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the mid-cycle review meeting.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC’s “Rules of Practice,” a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be made 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).

If circumstances arise which cause us to change this inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact me at 610-337-5211 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Glenn Meyer, Chief
Projects Branch 3
Division of Reactor Projects, Region 1

Docket No.       50-333
License No.:      DPR-59

Enclosure:       FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant Inspection/Activity Plan

cc w/encl:       J. Yelverton, CEO, Entergy Operations
                 B. O’Grady, General Manager, Entergy Nuclear Operations
                 J. Knubel, VP Operations Support
                 H. Salmon, Director of Oversight
                 A. Halliday, Licensing Manager
                 M. Kansler, Chief Operating Officer, Entergy
                 D. Pace, VP Engineering
                 J. Fulton, Assistant General Counsel
                 Supervisor, Town of Scriba
                 J. Tierney, Oswego County Administrator
                 C. Donaldson, Esquire, Assistant Attorney General, New York Department of Law
                 P. Eddy, Electric Division, Department of Public Service, State of New York
                 W. Flynn, President, New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
                 S. Lousteau, Treasury Department
                 T. Judson, Central New York Citizens Awareness Network
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This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities. This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.