August 31, 2007

William R. Brian, Vice President
of Operations
Grand Gulf Nuclear Station
Entergy Operations, Inc.
P.O. Box 756
Port Gibson, MS 39150

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND INSPECTION PLAN - GRAND GULF NUCLEAR STATION

Dear Mr. Brian:

On August 9, 2007, the NRC staff completed its performance review of the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station for the first half of the calendar year 2007 assessment cycle. Our technical staff reviewed performance indicators for the most recent quarter and inspection results over the previous 12 months. 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.

This performance review and enclosed inspection plan do not include security information. A separate letter designated and marked as "Official Use Only--Security Information" will include the security cornerstone review and resultant inspection plan.

Plant performance for the most recent quarter at Grand Gulf Nuclear Station 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 performance indicators indicating performance at a level requiring no additional NRC oversight (Green). Therefore, we plan to conduct reactor oversight process baseline inspections at your facility.

The staff identified that there were more than three Green findings for the current 12-month assessment period with documented cross-cutting aspects in the area of human performance. A cross-cutting theme in the aspect of human error prevention techniques was identified. Five findings affecting the mitigating systems and occupational radiation safety cornerstones involved this aspect. We determined that your staff appropriately recognized the declining trend, evaluated the declining trend, and implemented specific corrective actions. Based on this, we have concluded that the scope of your efforts to address this cross-cutting theme appear appropriate and we will continue to monitor the effectiveness of your actions through baseline inspection activities.

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections, except those related to security scheduled through December 31, 2008. The inspection plan is provided to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues well in advance of inspector arrival onsite.
Routine resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature. The inspections in the last nine months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the end-of-cycle review.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 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/reading-rm/adams.html (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

The NRC is currently evaluating the scope and frequency of all baseline inspection procedures. If the results of the evaluation, or any other circumstances, cause us to change the inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact me, at (817) 860-8144 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,

Wally C. Wall

Michael C. Hay, Chief
Project Branch C
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket:  50-416
License:  NPF-29

Enclosure:
Grand Gulf Inspection/Activity Plan

cc w/enclosure:
Executive Vice President
and Chief Operating Officer
Entergy Operations, Inc.
P.O. Box 31995
Jackson, MS  39266-1995

Chief, Energy & Transportation Branch
Environmental Compliance and
Enforcement Division
Mississippi Department of
Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 10385
Jackson, MS  39289-0385

President
Claiborne County Board of Supervisors
P.O. Box 339
Port Gibson, MS  39150

General Manager, Plant Operations
Grand Gulf Nuclear Station
Entergy Operations, Inc.
P.O. Box 756
Port Gibson, MS  39150

Attorney General
Department of Justice
State of Louisiana
P.O. Box 94005
Baton Rouge, LA  70804-9005
Office of the Governor
State of Mississippi
Jackson, MS 39205

Attorney General
Assistant Attorney General
State of Mississippi
P.O. Box 22947
Jackson, MS 39225-2947

State Health Officer
State Board of Health
P.O. Box 139
Jackson, MS 39205

Conrad S. Burnside, Chief
Technological Hazards Branch
National Preparedness Division
DHS/FEMA
3003 Chamblee Tucker Road
Atlanta, GA 30341

Institute of Nuclear Power Operations (INPO)
Records Center
700 Galleria Parkway SE, Suite 100
Atlanta, GA 30339

Director
Nuclear Safety & Licensing
Entergy Operations, Inc.
1340 Echelon Parkway
Jackson, MS 39213-8298

Director, Nuclear Safety Assurance
Entergy Operations, Inc.
P.O. Box 756
Port Gibson, MS 39150

Richard Penrod, Senior Environmental
Scientist, State Liaison Officer
Office of Environmental Services
Northwestern State University
Russseil Hall, Room 201
Natchitoches, LA 71497

Lisa R. Hammond, Chief
Technological Hazards Branch
National Preparedness Division
FEMA Region VI
800 N. Loop 288
Denton, TX 76209
Electronic distribution by RIV:
Regional Administrator (BSM1)
DRP Director (ATH)
DRS Director (DDC)
DRS Deputy Director (RJC1)
Senior Resident Inspector (GBM)
Branch Chief, DRP/C (MCH2)
Senior Project Engineer, DRP/C (WCW)
Team Leader, DRP/TSS (CJP)
RITS Coordinator (MSH3)
V. Dricks, PAO (VLD)
W. Maier, RSLO (WAM)
L. Owen, RA Secretary (LAO)
DRS Branch Chiefs (WBJ, ATG, LJS, MPS1)
RidsNrrDirslpab@nrc.gov
T. Bloomer, Chief, TRPS, OEDO (TEB)
S. Richards, Deputy Director, DIRS, NRR (SAR)
J. Lubinski, Deputy Director, DORL, NRR (JWL)
C. Haney, Director, DORL, NRR (CXH)
T. Hiltz, Chief, PLB IV, DORL, NRR (TGH)
B. Vaidya, NRR Project Manager (BKV)

SUNSI Review Completed: __MCH__
ADAMS: ☑ Yes ☐ No
Initials: __MCH__
☒ Publicly Available ☐ Non-Publicly Available ☐ Sensitive ☑ Non-Sensitive

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