Mr. Kevin Mulligan  
Site Vice President Operations  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
Grand Gulf Nuclear Station  
P.O. Box 756  
Port Gibson, MS  39150

SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR THE GRAND GULF NUCLEAR STATION (REPORT 05000416/2013001)

Dear Mr. Mulligan:

On February 11, 2014, the NRC completed its end-of-cycle performance review of the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station. The NRC reviewed the most recent quarterly performance indicators (PIs) in addition to inspection results and enforcement actions from January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013. This letter informs you of the NRC’s assessment of your facility during this period and its plans for future inspections at your facility.

The NRC determined the performance at the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station during the most recent quarter was within the Regulatory Response Column of the NRC’s Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Action Matrix because, as discussed in our letter to you dated May 13, 2013 (ML13133A197), and in our Mid-Cycle letter to you dated September 3, 2013 (ML13246A404), the PI for Unplanned Scrams per 7000 Critical Hours was reported as White for the first quarter of 2013. In addition, this PI was reported as White again in the third quarter of 2013. These letters informed you that the NRC planned to conduct a supplemental inspection, in accordance with Inspection Procedure 95001, "Supplemental Inspection for One or Two White Inputs in a Strategic Performance Area," once you inform the NRC of your readiness for inspection. Because you have not yet informed the NRC of your readiness for this inspection, the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station will remain within the Regulatory Response Column until the NRC completes the inspection with satisfactory results.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through June 30, 2015. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. The inspections listed during the last nine months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the mid-cycle performance review. The NRC provides the inspection plan to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues. The NRC will contact you as soon as possible to discuss changes to the inspection plan should circumstances warrant any changes. This inspection plan does not include security related inspections, which will be sent via separate, non-publicly available correspondence.
From January 1 to December 31, 2013, the NRC issued three Severity Level IV traditional enforcement violations associated with impeding the regulatory process. Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct Inspection Procedure 92723, “Follow-up Inspection for Three or More Severity Level IV Traditional Enforcement Violations in the Same Area in a 12-Month Period,” to follow-up on these violations. The purpose of this inspection is to provide assurance that you understand the cause of these violations, and that the extent of condition and extent of cause of these multiple Severity Level IV violations are also identified.

As a result of the Safety Culture Common Language Initiative, the terminology and coding of cross-cutting aspects were revised effective January 1, 2014. New cross-cutting aspects will be coded in accordance with the latest revision to NRC Inspection Manual Chapter (IMC) 0310, dated December 19, 2013. Cross-cutting aspects identified in the last six months of 2013 using the previous terminology will be converted to the revised language in accordance with the cross-reference in IMC 0310. The revised cross-cutting aspects will be evaluated for cross-cutting themes and potential substantive cross-cutting issues in accordance with IMC 0305 starting with the calendar year 2014 mid-cycle assessment.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC’s “Rules of Practice,” a copy of this letter 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/reading-rm/adams.html (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Please contact Don Allen at (817) 200-1144 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Kriss M. Kennedy, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No.  50-416
License No.  NPF-29

Enclosure:  Grand Gulf Nuclear Station Inspection/Activity Plan

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