December 21, 2011

Donna Jacobs, Vice President, Operations
Entergy Operations, Inc.
Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3
17265 River Road
Killona, LA 70057-0751

SUBJECT: ASSESSMENT FOLLOWUP LETTER – WATERFORD STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNIT 3

Dear Ms. Jacobs:

On November 17, 2011, the NRC staff completed, as part of our continuous review, an updated assessment of Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3 performance. The NRC’s evaluation consisted of a review of performance indicators and inspection results. This letter informs you of the NRC’s assessment of the fourth quarter of 2011 and its plans for a future inspection at your facility. This letter supplements, but does not supersede, the mid-cycle letter issued on September 1, 2011.

Overall, Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3, operated in a manner that preserved the public’s health and safety and fully met cornerstone objectives. On November 17, 2011, the NRC forwarded a letter that stated the final significance determination of a White inspection finding in the Occupational Radiation Safety Cornerstone. This finding involved the failure to use effective engineering controls as part of pre-job planning to reduce contamination and subsequent exposure associated with leaking reactor coolant pump seals.

The NRC determined the performance at Waterford Steam Electric Station to be in the Regulatory Response Column of the Reactor Oversight Process Action Matrix beginning on July 1, 2011. As a result of the Regulatory Response performance, a supplemental inspection will be performed in accordance with Inspection Procedure 95001, “Inspection for One or Two White Inputs in a Strategic Performance Area.” The objectives of this supplemental inspection are to provide assurance that the root causes and contributing causes of risk-significant performance issues are understood, provide assurance that the extent of condition and extent of cause of risk-significant performance issues are identified, and provide assurance that your corrective actions for risk-significant performance issues are sufficient to address the root and contributing causes and prevent recurrence. We will not schedule the supplemental inspection until you notify us of your readiness for the inspection.
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 Ray Azua at (817) 860-8445 with any questions you may have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Kriss M. Kennedy
Director, Division of Reactor Projects

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