

January 28, 2008

Mr. Kevin T. Walsh
Vice President of Operations
Entergy Operations, Inc.
17265 River Road
Killona, LA 70057-3093

SUBJECT: WATERFORD STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNIT 3 - REPORT ON RESULTS
OF STAFF AUDIT OF CORRECTIVE ACTIONS TO ADDRESS GENERIC
LETTER 2004-02 (TAC NO. MC4729)

Dear Mr. Walsh:

Generic Letter (GL) 2004-02, "Potential Impact of Debris Blockage on Emergency Recirculation During Design Basis Accidents at Pressurized-Water Reactors," requested that all pressurized-water reactor (PWR) licensees (1) evaluate the adequacy of the emergency sump recirculation function with respect to potentially adverse effects associated with post-accident debris, and (2) implement any plant modifications determined to be necessary. Entergy Operations, Inc. (Entergy, the licensee), has conducted an evaluation of recirculation sump performance for Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3 (Waterford Unit 3). In addition, Entergy has installed new sump strainers in Waterford 3.

Consistent with the discussion in the "Reasons for Information Request" section of GL 2004-02, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff is using sample audits to help verify that licensees have resolved the concerns identified in the generic letter. The NRC staff has conducted a detailed audit of the new sump strainer design and associated analyses and testing for Waterford Unit 3.

The NRC staff is forwarding the Waterford 3 Generic Safety Issue (GSI)-191 audit report to Entergy. The enclosed audit report provides Entergy feedback on its GL 2004-02 corrective actions and supporting analyses. Also, when made publicly available, this audit report will serve as a vehicle to inform other PWR licensees of the NRC staff's technical positions on various aspects of GSI-191, PWR Sump Performance.

The NRC staff previously forwarded a draft of this audit report to Entergy. Entergy, after consultation with its contractors and vendors for GL 2004-02 corrective actions, assisted the staff in removing a small amount of information claimed by General Electric Hitachi Nuclear Energy to be proprietary. Therefore, the NRC staff believes that there is no proprietary information contained in the enclosed audit report.

Entergy was supportive during all phases of the audit. Consideration was given by Entergy in providing appropriate office space and facilitating the emergency core cooling system pump rooms tour taken by audit team members. Your primary point-of-contact during the preparation, conduct, and report-writing phases of the audit was helpful in accomplishing the audit.

The enclosed audit report does not reach a conclusion regarding overall adequacy of Entergy's GL 2004-02 corrective actions for Waterford 3. The NRC staff expects that Entergy's end-of-Calendar Year 2007 GL 2004-02 supplemental response, due by the end of February 2008, will respond to the open items in the enclosed audit report. This expectation has been stated in public meetings with licensees and at the audit exit meeting for the Waterford Unit 3 audit. It is reinforced in a GL 2004-02 supplemental response content guide that the NRC staff released in August 2007 and revised in November 2007. In 2008, NRC staff consideration of Entergy's GL 2004-02 supplemental response (including its response to audit open items), due by February 29, 2008, will result in a letter to Entergy assessing the overall adequacy of the Waterford Unit 3 GL 2004-02 corrective actions.

The audit team did not evaluate whether Entergy has identified and/or submitted appropriate licensing documents for its GL 2004-02 corrective actions. The licensee's maintenance of its licensing basis is within the scope of the Reactor Oversight Program. The audit team did not evaluate the completeness of the licensee's implementation of GL 2004-02 corrective actions. That is also within the scope of the Reactor Oversight Program under TI 2515/166, "Pressurized Water Reactor Containment Sump Blockage."

Sincerely,

/RA/

N. Kalyanam, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch IV
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-382

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/o encl: See next page

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Sincerely,
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N. Kalyanam, Project Manager
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Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3

(November 2007)

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