



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4005**

March 4, 2003

Paul D. Hinnenkamp
Vice President - Operations
River Bend Station
Entergy Operations, Inc.
P.O. Box 220
St. Francisville, Louisiana 70775

SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT - RIVER BEND STATION (REPORT 50-458/2003-01)

Dear Mr. Hinnenkamp:

On February 6, 2003, the NRC staff completed its end-of-cycle plant performance assessment of River Bend Station. The end-of-cycle review for River Bend Station involved the participation of all technical divisions in evaluating performance indicators 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, River Bend Station operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and fully met all cornerstone objectives. Plant performance for the most recent quarter was within the Regulatory Response column of the NRC's Action Matrix based on one finding of low to moderate risk significance (White) in the Emergency Preparedness Cornerstone for failure to comply with the requirements of 10 CFR 50.47(b)(7). Between 1985 and January 2002, River Bend Station did not provide emergency preparedness information to members of the public utilizing facilities within the licensee's owner controlled area. A supplemental inspection utilizing Inspection Procedure 95001, "Inspection Procedure for One or Two White Inputs in a Strategic Performance Area," was conducted during the week of November 25, 2002, and NRC reviewed your actions regarding this issue. Your evaluation of the issue was satisfactory and appropriate corrective actions had been implemented.

However, the significance of another finding, the failure to properly lock open a condensate valve that inadvertently closed following a reactor scram in September 2002 and resulted in a loss of feedwater flow, is still under review as part of the Significance Determination Process.

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections scheduled through March 31, 2004. In addition to the baseline inspection program, Temporary Instruction 2515/148, "Inspection of Nuclear Reactor Safeguards Interim Compensatory Measures," will be performed at River Bend Station during this inspection cycle. 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 Midcycle Review meeting.

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 and 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.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosure, and your response 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).

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 817-860-8141 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Arthur T. Howell III, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket: 50-458
License: NPF-47

Enclosure:
River Bend Station Inspection/Activity Plan

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RIV:C:DRP/B	D:DRS	D:DRP		
DNGraves;df;vlh	DDChamberlain	ATHowell		
/RA/	/RA/	/RA/		
2/26/03	2/27/03	3/2/03		

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T=Telephone

E=E-mail

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River Bend
Inspection / Activity Plan
03/02/2003 - 03/31/2004

Unit Number	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site	Planned Dates		Inspection Type
				Start	End	
	EMB - ISI		2			
1	IP 7111108G	Inservice Inspection Activities - BWR		03/17/2003	03/21/2003	Baseline Inspections
	ACCESSPI - ACRSA/PI		1			
1	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		03/24/2003	03/28/2003	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		03/24/2003	03/28/2003	Baseline Inspections
	ALARA2 - ALARA PLANNING AND CONTROLS		1			
1	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		03/24/2003	03/28/2003	Baseline Inspections
	ALARA3 - ALARA PLANNING AND CONTROLS		1			
1	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		07/14/2003	07/18/2003	Baseline Inspections
	SEC-TI - SECURITY ORDER VERIFICATION (2515/148)		4			
1	IP 2515/148	Inspection of Nuclear Reactor Safeguards - Interim Compensatory Measures		07/14/2003	07/18/2003	Safety Issues
	RP-TM - RAD SAFETY TEAM		4			
1	IP 7112103	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation and Protective Equipment		08/18/2003	08/22/2003	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112201	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment and Monitoring Systems		08/18/2003	08/22/2003	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112202	Radioactive Material Processing and Transportation		08/18/2003	08/22/2003	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112203	Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program		08/18/2003	08/22/2003	Baseline Inspections
	PSB-S1 - SECURITY BASELINE INSPECTION		1			
1	IP 7113002	Access Control (Search of Personnel, Packages, and Vehicles: Identification and Authorizat		10/06/2003	10/10/2003	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7113003	Response to Contingency Events (Protective Strategy and Implementation of Protective Stra		10/06/2003	10/10/2003	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		10/06/2003	10/10/2003	Baseline Inspections
	OB-PIR - RB PIR INSPECTION		5			
1	IP 71152B	Identification and Resolution of Problems		10/27/2003	11/07/2003	Baseline Inspections
	EMB - TRIENNIAL FIRE PROTECTION		3			
1	IP 7111105T	Fire Protection		02/09/2004	02/13/2004	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7111105T	Fire Protection		02/23/2004	02/27/2004	Baseline Inspections
	ALARA1 - ALARA PLANNING AND CONTROLS		1			
1	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		02/09/2004	02/13/2004	Baseline Inspections
	ACCESSPI - ACRSA/PIV		1			
1	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		02/23/2004	02/27/2004	Baseline Inspections
	EMB - MAINTENANCE EFFECTIVENESS		1			
1	IP 7111112B	Maintenance Effectiveness		03/15/2004	03/19/2004	Baseline Inspections

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.
This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.