

May 27, 2005

Mr. Joseph E. Venable
Vice President Operations
Entergy Operations, Inc.
17265 River Road
Killona, LA 70066-0751

SUBJECT: WATERFORD STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNIT 3 (WATERFORD 3) -
REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (RAI) RELATED TO GENERIC
LETTER 2004-02, "POTENTIAL IMPACT OF DEBRIS BLOCKAGE ON
EMERGENCY SUMP RECIRCULATION AT PRESSURIZED-WATER
REACTORS" (TAC NO. MC4729)

Dear Mr. Venable:

By letter dated March 3, 2005, Entergy Operations Inc. (the licensee), provided the 90-day response to U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Generic Letter (GL) 2004-02 for Waterford 3. The GL requested the licensee perform an evaluation of the emergency core cooling system and containment spray system recirculation functions in light of the information provided in the GL and, if appropriate, take additional actions to ensure system function. Additionally, addressees were requested to submit to the NRC the information specified in the GL.

The NRC staff has completed its preliminary review of your response and has determined it needs additional information requested in the enclosure to complete our review.

This RAI requests additional information about your overall plans and schedules and not any information on detailed plans or extensive analyses. In light of this, please provide the additional information requested in the enclosure within 30 days of receipt of this letter.

If you have any questions, please call me at (301) 415-1480.

Sincerely,

/RA/

N. Kalyanam, Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate IV
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-382

Enclosure: RAI

cc w/encl: See next page

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Accession No.: ML051530547 * RAI input from the staff without any major change

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REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
REGARDING GENERIC LETTER 2004-02,
"POTENTIAL IMPACT OF DEBRIS BLOCKAGE ON
EMERGENCY SUMP RECIRCULATION AT PRESSURIZED-WATER REACTORS"
ENTERGY OPERATIONS INC.
WATERFORD STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNIT 3

By letter dated March 3, 2005, Entergy Operations Inc. (the licensee) provided its 90-day response to U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Generic Letter (GL) 2004-02 for Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3. The GL requested that addressees perform an evaluation of the emergency core cooling system and containment spray system recirculation functions in light of the information provided in the GL and, if appropriate, take additional actions to ensure system function. Additionally, addressees were requested to submit to the NRC the information specified in the GL. The staff has completed its preliminary review of your response and has determined it needs the following additional information to complete its review:

1. In your 90-day response to GL 2004-02, you indicated that you intend to use future test results, industry guidance, and NRC guidance to account for chemical precipitants in your evaluation and their availability will impact the schedule for performing an evaluation. The cooperative NRC-Electric Power Research Institute tests in progress at the University of New Mexico are designed to determine if chemical effects occur, but are not designed to measure head loss associated with any chemical effects. The staff notes that some chemical effects have been observed in the initial three tests.
2. In your 90-day response to GL 2004-02, you indicated that you intend to use industry owners' group guidance and component manufacturer data to evaluate long-term performance degradation of downstream susceptible components caused by debris-laden fluid and their availability will impact the schedule for performing an evaluation.

For both of these issues, you state their evaluation may occur after the September 1, 2005, response due date, depending on the schedule for testing and the availability of industry guidance. This is contrary to the information request in GL 2004-02, which requests that chemical and downstream effects be addressed in the September 1, 2005, response. This delay is also contrary to the staff's position that there is currently sufficient information to address sump vulnerability that the staff is not going to wait for additional test results. In addition, the September 1, 2005, response will be incomplete if the evaluation is not complete, the design is not complete, or there is no schedule for upgrades. Accordingly, please discuss your plans and schedule for evaluating chemical effects and the long-term downstream effects. Discuss any plans for performing testing to support your evaluation of these effects.

Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3

cc:

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