



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION II
SAM NUNN ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET, SW, SUITE 23T85
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8931

August 30, 2005

Duke Energy Corporation
ATTN: Mr. G. R. Peterson
Vice President
McGuire Nuclear Station
12700 Hagers Ferry Road
Huntersville, NC 28078-8985

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND INSPECTION PLAN - MCGUIRE
NUCLEAR STATION

Dear Mr. Peterson:

On August 3, 2005, the NRC staff completed its performance review of the McGuire Nuclear Station for the first half of the calendar year 2005 assessment cycle. Our technical staff reviewed performance indicators (PIs) for the most recent quarter and inspection results over the previous twelve months. 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.

This performance review and the enclosed inspection plan do not include physical protection information. A separate letter designated and marked as "Exempt from Public Disclosure in Accordance with 10 CFR 2.390" will include the physical protection review and a resultant inspection plan.

Plant performance for the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response column of the NRC's Action Matrix, based on all inspection findings being classified as having very low safety significance (Green) and all PIs indicating performance at a level requiring no additional NRC oversight (Green). Therefore, we plan to conduct only reactor oversight process baseline inspections at your facility through March 31, 2007. We also plan on conducting inspections that are not part of the routine baseline inspection program. These activities include a routine inspection associated with your independent spent fuel storage installation; a safety issue inspection concerning the reactor pressurizer penetration nozzles and steam space piping connections (NRC Bulletin 2004-01); and the administration of operator licensing examinations.

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections, less those related to physical protection scheduled through March 31, 2007. The inspection plan is provided to minimize the resource impact on your staff and to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues well in advance of inspector arrival onsite. Routine resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature. The inspections in the last twelve months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the end-of-cycle review meeting.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure 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 the inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact me at (404) 562-4540 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,

/RA by Joseph B. Brady Acting For/

Michael E. Ernestes, Chief
Reactor Projects Branch 1
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 50-369, 50-370
License Nos. NFP-9, NPF-17

Enclosure: McGuire Inspection/Activity Plan

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