

January 10, 2006

Mr. John Herron
Senior Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Incorporated
440 Hamilton Avenue
White Plains, NY 10601

RI-2004-A-0025

Subject: NRC Office of Investigation Report 1-2004-022

Dear Mr. Herron:

The Region I Field Office of the NRC Office of Investigations (OI) initiated an investigation (Case No. 1-2004-022) on April 29, 2004, to determine whether Reactor Operators and Nuclear Plant Operators willfully performed work during the April 2003 Indian Point 3 refueling outage that they were not qualified to perform, and whether Operations management coerced NPOs to perform work they were not qualified to perform during both the April 2003 Indian Point 3 refueling outage, and the Indian Point 2 refueling outage of October 2002.

Based on the evidence developed during the investigation, OI did not substantiate that ROs or NPOs willfully performed work that they were not qualified to perform, nor that they were coerced by Operations management to do so. OI did not identify any instances where ROs or NPOs performed work for which they were unqualified. Interviews did not reveal that management was attempting to bypass procedures and training qualification cards. OI did find that there was a concerted effort to qualify as many operators as possible to conduct tasks on the other unit during refueling outages, and that some problems surfaced as a result of a lack of communication between Operations and Training, and between Operations management and the operators as to what was expected from the operators. While full dual unit qualification (i.e., the ability for operators to do work on both units during both outage and non-outage periods) purportedly is a long-term company goal, OI found no evidence that efforts were being made at this time by supervision to authorize full dual unit qualification of operators without the required training.

Based on the evidence developed during this investigation, this matter was not substantiated.

Please note that final NRC documents, such as the OI report described above, may be made available to the public under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) subject to redaction of information appropriate under the FOIA. Requests under the FOIA should be made in accordance with 10 CFR 9.23, Requests for Records, a copy of which is enclosed for your information.

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Also, in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosure, and your response, if any, 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).

Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please feel free to contact Mr. B. McDermott of my staff at (610) 337-5233.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Brian E. Holian, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Enclosure:
10 CFR 9.23, Requests for Records

Mr. John Herron

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