



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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

August 31, 2006

Carolina Power and Light Company
ATTN: Mr. J. Scarola
Vice President
Brunswick Steam Electric Plant
P. O. Box 10429
Southport, NC 28461

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND INSPECTION PLAN -
BRUNSWICK STEAM ELECTRIC PLANT

Dear Mr. Scarola:

On August 3, 2006, the NRC staff completed its performance review of the Brunswick Steam Electric Plant for the first half of the calendar year (CY) 2006 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.

Overall, Brunswick Units 1 and 2 operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and fully met all cornerstone objectives. Plant performance for both Brunswick Units for the most recent quarter was in the Regulatory Response Column of the NRC's Action Matrix due to the Mitigating Systems Performance Index, Emergency AC Power System PI crossing the Green/White threshold to White in the 2nd quarter of CY 2006. This White PI, involving the Mitigating System Cornerstone, reflected performance at a level requiring increased regulatory response. Therefore, in addition to the reactor oversight process baseline inspection program, the NRC plans to schedule and conduct a Supplemental Inspection of Unit 1 and 2 activities, using Inspection Procedure (IP) 95001, "Inspection for One or Two White Inputs in a Strategic Performance Area", as required by the NRC's Action Matrix. We will schedule this inspection to, as much as possible, minimize the impact of the inspection on your resources, and inform you of the inspection dates as soon as they are finalized.

In addition, Brunswick Unit 2 was in the Regulatory Response Column during the 1st quarter of CY 2006. As discussed in the Brunswick Annual Assessment Letter, dated March 2, 2006, Brunswick Unit 2 had crossed the Green/White threshold for the Unplanned Power Changes per 7000 Critical Hours PI during the 4th quarter of CY 2005, and was therefore in the Regulatory Response Column for that quarter.

The PI, involving the Initiating Event Cornerstone, remained White through the 1st quarter of CY 2006 and returned to Green in the 2nd quarter of CY 2006. A Supplemental Inspection using IP 95001 was conducted in June 2006 for the White PI and no findings of significance were identified.

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections, less those related to physical protection, scheduled through March 31, 2008. In addition to the baseline inspection program inspections, and the Supplemental Inspection mentioned above, the plan currently includes a verification inspection of the Mitigating Systems Performance Index. 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 Binoy Desai at 404-562-4519 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Charles A. Casto, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos.: 50-325, 50-324
License Nos: DPR-71, DPR-62

Enclosure: Brunswick Inspection/Activity Plan

cc w/encl: (See page 3)

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| E-MAIL COPY? | YES | NO | YES | NO | YES | NO | YES |

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CP&L

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Letter to J. Scarola from Charles A. Casto dated August 31, 2006

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND INSPECTION PLAN -
BRUNSWICK STEAM ELECTRIC PLANT

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