



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

August 31, 2006

Paul D. Hinnenkamp
Vice President - Operations
Entergy Operations, Inc.
River Bend Station
5485 US Highway 61N
St. Francisville, LA 70775

SUBJECT: MIDCYCLE PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND INSPECTION PLAN -
RIVER BEND STATION

Dear Mr. Hinnenkamp:

On August 8, 2006, the NRC staff completed its performance review of the River Bend Station for the first half of the calendar year 2006 assessment cycle. Our technical staff reviewed performance indicators for the most recent quarter and inspection results over the previous 12 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 in order for you to inform us of any planned inspections that may conflict with your plant activities.

This performance review and enclosed inspection plan do not include physical protection information. A separate letter designated and marked as "Official Use Only - Security-Related Information" will include the physical protection review and resultant inspection plan.

Plant performance for the most recent quarter at River Bend Station 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 performance indicators indicating performance at a level requiring no additional NRC oversight (Green). Although plant performance was within the Licensee Response column, the significance of one finding is still under review as part of the Significance Determination Process which, when finalized, may change our assessment of your plant's safety performance. This finding is related to River Bend Station's failure to ensure that adequate preplanned measures were in place for evaluating the Emergency Plan emergency action levels when seismic monitoring instrumentation was out of service. The details of this finding were documented in NRC Inspection Report 05000458/2006011, dated June 19, 2006.

As a result of this performance review, the NRC has determined that a substantive crosscutting issue in the area of problem identification and resolution exists at River Bend Station. Based on our review of NRC inspection findings for the previous 12 months, we noted that there were 9 Green inspection findings with crosscutting aspects in the area of problem identification and resolution. Seven of these findings involved the corrective action program component of problem identification and resolution. A crosscutting theme associated with four of the seven

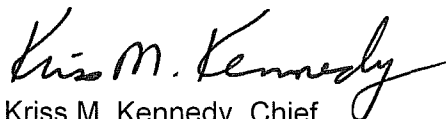
findings, all in the Mitigating Systems cornerstone, involved the aspect associated with the complete, accurate, and timely identification of issues. Examples included the failure to identify that a power supply breaker to the Division III engineered safety features bus was not properly racked in, the failure to set safety-related valve position limit switches in accordance with specified procedures, and the failure to adequately troubleshoot a station blackout diesel resulting in an extended outage. To address problems in this area, your staff developed a performance improvement plan at the end of 2005; however, these actions have not yet proven effective in substantially mitigating the crosscutting theme. Focused NRC oversight of these areas through baseline inspections will continue until our inspections indicate that your actions have been effective in improving the effectiveness of problem identification.

With the exception of inspections related to physical protection, the enclosed inspection plan details the inspections, including Temporary Instructions, scheduled through March 31, 2008. The inspection plan is provided to minimize the resource impact on your staff and to allow for the early 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 9 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 (817) 860-8144 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,



Kriss M. Kennedy, Chief
Project Branch C
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket: 50-458
License: NPF-47

Enclosure:
River Bend Station Inspection/Activity Plan

Entergy Operations, Inc.

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SUNSI Review Completed: WCW ADAMS: Yes No Initials: WCW
 Publicly Available Non-Publicly Available Sensitive Non-Sensitive

R:_REACTORS\EOC and Midcycle\Midcycle Assessment Letters\2006\RB5

RIV: SPE: DRP/C	SRI: RBS	C: DRP/C concurrence	D: DRS	D: DRP
WCWalker;df	PJAlter	KMKennedy	DDChamberlain	ATHowell III
/RA/	E-WCWalker	/RA/	RJCaniano for	<i>U</i>
8/16/06	8/18/06	8/18/06	8/24/06	8/21/06

C: DRP/C for signature			
KMKennedy	<i>B. Mallett</i>		
<i>KMK</i>	<i>Rsm</i>		
8/28/06	<i>8/28/06</i>		

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Unit Number	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site	Planned Dates Start End	Inspection Type
1	EB2-12T - MAINTENANCE RULE TRIENNIAL	Maintenance Effectiveness	4	07/10/2006 07/14/2006	Baseline Inspections
1	RP-ORS - OCCUPATIONAL RADIATION SAFETY	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas	1	07/17/2006 07/21/2006	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112101	ALARA Planning and Controls		07/17/2006 07/21/2006	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		07/17/2006 07/21/2006	Baseline Inspections
1	EP1 - EMERG PREPAREDNESS EXERCISE	Exercise Evaluation	3	08/14/2006 08/18/2006	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7111401	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes		08/14/2006 08/18/2006	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7111404	Performance Indicator Verification		08/14/2006 08/18/2006	Baseline Inspections
1	OB-RQ - REQUALIFICATION INSP	Licensed Operator Requalification Program	2	08/21/2006 08/25/2006	Baseline Inspections
1	EB2-07B - HX PERFORMANCE	Heat Sink Performance	1	10/02/2006 10/06/2006	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 711107B	Mitigating Systems Performance Index Verification	4	10/01/2006 12/31/2006	Safety Issues
1	TI-169	OCCUPATIONAL RADIATION SAFETY	1	01/08/2007 01/12/2007	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 2515/169	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		01/08/2007 01/12/2007	Baseline Inspections
1	RP-ORS - OCCUPATIONAL RADIATION SAFETY	ALARA Planning and Controls		01/08/2007 01/12/2007	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112101	Performance Indicator Verification		01/08/2007 01/12/2007	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112102				
1	EB2-05T - TRIENNIAL FIRE PROTECTION	Identification and Resolution of Problems	6	01/29/2007 02/02/2007	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 711105T	Identification and Resolution of Problems		02/12/2007 02/16/2007	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 711105T				
1	EB2-52B - PIR INSPECTION	Evaluation of Changes, Tests, or Experiments	5	04/09/2007 04/13/2007	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 71152B	Permanent Plant Modifications		04/23/2007 04/27/2007	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 71152B				
1	EB1-2/17 - 50.59 & PERMANENT PLANT MODS	Permanent Plant Modifications	3	04/16/2007 04/20/2007	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7111102			04/16/2007 04/20/2007	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 711117B				
1	EXAM - INITIAL EXAM		4	04/09/2007 04/13/2007	Not Applicable
1	X02348	RIVER BEND - INITIAL EXAM (06/07)		05/07/2007 05/18/2007	Not Applicable
1	X02348				
1	EP2 - EP PROGRAM	Alert and Notification System Testing	1	05/14/2007 05/18/2007	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7111402	Emergency Response Organization Augmentation Testing		05/14/2007 05/18/2007	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7111403				

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

Unit Number	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site	Planned Dates Start	Planned Dates End	Inspection Type
	EP2 - EP PROGRAM		1			
1	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes		05/14/2007	05/18/2007	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies		05/14/2007	05/18/2007	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 711151	Performance Indicator Verification		05/14/2007	05/18/2007	Baseline Inspections
	RP-ORS - OCCUPATIONAL RADIATION SAFETY		1			
1	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		09/24/2007	09/28/2007	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		09/24/2007	09/28/2007	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		09/24/2007	09/28/2007	Baseline Inspections
	EB1-08G - ISI		1			
1	IP 7111108G	Inservice Inspection Activities - BWR		10/01/2007	10/05/2007	Baseline Inspections
	RP TEAM - RADIATION SAFETY TEAM		5			
1	IP 7112103	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation and Protective Equipment		10/29/2007	11/02/2007	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112201	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment and Monitoring Systems		10/29/2007	11/02/2007	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112202	Radioactive Material Processing and Transportation		10/29/2007	11/02/2007	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112203	Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program (REMP) And Radioactive Material Control P		10/29/2007	11/02/2007	Baseline Inspections
	RP-ORS - OCCUPATIONAL RADIATION SAFETY		1			
1	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		12/10/2007	12/14/2007	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		12/10/2007	12/14/2007	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		12/10/2007	12/14/2007	Baseline Inspections

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