

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

June 18, 2009

Vice President, Operations Entergy Operations, Inc. Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3 17265 River Road Killona, LA 70057-3093

SUBJECT:

ENTERGY LOUISIANA, LLC'S STATUS OF DECOMMISSIONING FUNDING ASSURANCE FOR WATERFORD STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNIT 3 (TAC

NO. ME0586)

Dear Sir or Madam:

On March 30, 2009, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received Entergy Louisiana, LLC's (Entergy Louisiana) biennial decommissioning funding report (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML090920218) for Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3 (Waterford 3).

Based on our internal review, the NRC staff believes there is a projected shortfall of decommissioning funding assurance for Waterford 3 at the time permanent termination of operations is expected. Although a shortfall in decommissioning funding assurance does not affect safe operations, adequate decommissioning funding assurance is important to ensure a plant will eventually be decommissioned safely.

The NRC staff will conduct a telephone conference with Entergy Louisiana within ten working days of the date of this letter to discuss the staff's calculations and methodology. The intent of the call will be to establish a mutual understanding and framework such that you will be able to develop a plan to resolve any projected decommissioning funding assurance shortfall.

If Entergy Louisiana is determined to have a projected shortfall, it will need to submit a plan by a date to be established at the close of the telephone conference. The plan would describe how and when the licensee intends to make adjustments to its trust fund balances and/or schedule of future collections, or make other adjustments or changes with respect to financial assurance mechanisms, such that it will be on track to meet the minimum amount of financial assurance required by the NRC's regulations.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement

This letter does not contain any new or amended information collection requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). Existing collection requirements under 10 CFR Part 50 were approved by the Office of Management and Budget, control number 3150-0011, which expires June 30, 2010.

Public Protection Notification

The NRC may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, an information collection unless the requesting document displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Sincerely,

N. Kalyanam, Project Manager Plant Licensing Branch IV

James R. Hall for

Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-382

cc: Distribution via Listserv

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Sincerely,

/RA by James R. Hall for/

N. Kalyanam, Project Manager Plant Licensing Branch IV Division of Operating Reactor Licensing Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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