



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION IV  
612 EAST LAMAR BLVD, SUITE 400  
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4125

September 1, 2011

Eric W. Olson  
Vice President Operations  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
River Bend Station  
5485 US Highway 61  
St. Francisville, LA 39150

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND INSPECTION PLAN -  
RIVER BEND STATION

Dear Mr. Olson:

On August 17, 2011, the NRC completed its mid-cycle performance review of River Bend Station. The NRC reviewed the most recent quarterly performance indicators (PIs) in addition to inspection results and enforcement actions from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of your facility during this period and its plans for future inspections at your facility. This performance review and enclosed inspection plan do not include security information. A separate letter will include the NRC's assessment of your performance in the Security Cornerstone and its security-related inspection plan.

Overall, River Bend Station operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and fully met all cornerstone objectives. The NRC determined the performance at River Bend Station during the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Action Matrix because all inspection findings had very low (i.e., Green) safety significance, and all PIs indicated that your performance was within the nominal, expected range (i.e., Green). Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct ROP baseline inspections at your facility.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through December 31, 2012. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. The inspections listed during the last nine months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the end-of-cycle performance review. The NRC provides the inspection plan to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues. The NRC will contact you as soon as possible to discuss changes to the inspection plan should circumstances warrant any changes. Temporary Instruction (TI) 177 Inspection, "Managing Gas Accumulation in Emergency Core Cooling, Decay Heat Removal, and Containment Spray Systems" is scheduled to begin the week of November 14, 2011.

In the days following the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear accident in Japan, the Commission directed the staff to establish a senior-level agency task force to conduct a methodical and systematic review of the NRC's processes and regulations to determine whether the agency should make additional improvements to its regulatory system. The NRC has since completed

TI-183, "Follow-up to Fukushima Dai-ichi Nuclear Station Fuel Damage Event," and TI-184, "Availability and Readiness Inspection of Severe Accident Management Guidelines (SAMGs)" at your facility. Results of these inspections can be found here: <http://www.nrc.gov/japan/japan-activities.html>. Additionally, on May 11, 2011, the agency issued NRC Bulletin 2011-01, "Mitigating Strategies," to confirm compliance with Order EA-02-026, subsequently imposed license conditions, and 10 CFR 50.54(hh)(2), and to determine the status of licensee mitigating strategies programs. On July 12, 2011, the NRC's Task Force made its recommendations to the Commission in its report, "Recommendations for Enhancing Reactor Safety in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: The Near-Term Task Force Review of Insights from the Fukushima Dai-ichi Accident." The Commission is currently reviewing the Task Force's recommendations to determine whether additional actions may be warranted.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter 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).

Please contact me at 817-860-8144 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "V. Gaddy for VGG".

Vincent G. Gaddy, Chief  
Reactor Projects Branch C  
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 50-458  
License Nos. NPF-47

Enclosure: River Bend Station Inspection/Activity Plan

Distribution via ListServ

**River Bend**  
**Inspection / Activity Plan**  
**09/01/2011 - 12/31/2012**

Unit Number	Planned Dates Start	Planned Dates End	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
			<b>RP678 - RADIATION SAFETY TEAM</b>		<b>3</b>
1	09/12/2011	09/16/2011	IP 71124.06	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment	
1	09/12/2011	09/16/2011	IP 71124.07	Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program	
1	09/12/2011	09/16/2011	IP 71124.08	Radioactive Solid Waste Processing and Radioactive Material Handling, Storage, and Transportation	
			<b>EB1-21 - COMPONENT DESIGN BASIS INSPECTION</b>		<b>7</b>
1	09/26/2011	10/28/2011	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
			<b>TI-177 - 2515/TI-177: ECCS GAS ACCUMULATION</b>		<b>1</b>
1	11/14/2011	11/18/2011	IP 2515/177	Managing Gas Accumulation In Emergency Core Cooling, Decay Heat Removal & Containment Spray System	
			<b>EB1-17T - 50.59 &amp; PERM PLANT MODS</b>		<b>2</b>
1	01/30/2012	02/10/2012	IP 7111117T	Evaluations of Changes, Tests, or Experiments and Permanent Plant Modifications	
1	01/30/2012	02/10/2012	IP 7111117T-chng/tst	change/test/evaluations	
1	01/30/2012	02/10/2012	IP 7111117T-evals	evaluations	
1	01/30/2012	02/10/2012	IP 7111117T-permmods	permanent mods	
			<b>RS34 - RADIATION SAFETY</b>		<b>2</b>
1	02/27/2012	03/02/2012	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1	02/27/2012	03/02/2012	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
			<b>EXAM - INITIAL OPERATOR EXAM</b>		<b>4</b>
1	09/24/2012	09/28/2012	X02496	INITIAL EXAM FOR RIVER BEND STATION (01/01/2012)	
1	11/05/2012	11/09/2012	X02496	INITIAL EXAM FOR RIVER BEND STATION (01/01/2012)	
			<b>EP-1 - BIENNIAL EP EXERCISE</b>		<b>3</b>
1	06/11/2012	06/15/2012	IP 7111401	Exercise Evaluation	
1	06/11/2012	06/15/2012	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes	
1	06/11/2012	06/15/2012	IP 71151-EP01	Drill/Exercise Performance	
1	06/11/2012	06/15/2012	IP 71151-EP02	ERO Drill Participation	
1	06/11/2012	06/15/2012	IP 71151-EP03	Alert & Notification System	
			<b>BRQ - BRQ INSPECTION</b>		<b>2</b>
1	08/06/2012	08/10/2012	IP 7111111B	Licensed Operator Requalification Program	
			<b>RS12 - RADIATION SAFETY</b>		<b>2</b>
1	10/29/2012	11/30/2012	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1	10/29/2012	11/30/2012	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	10/29/2012	11/30/2012	IP 71151-OR01	Occupational Exposure Control Effectiveness	

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

**River Bend**  
**Inspection / Activity Plan**  
**09/01/2011 - 12/31/2012**

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Unit Number	Planned Dates Start End	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
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1	10/29/2012 11/30/2012	RS12 - RADIATION SAFETY IP 71151-PR01	RETS/ODCM Radiological Effluent	2
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Comments:

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