



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
1600 EAST LAMAR BLVD
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4511

September 4, 2012

Christopher J. Schwarz, Site Vice President
Arkansas Nuclear One
Entergy Operations, Inc.
1448 SR 333
Russellville, AR 72802-0967

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR ARKANSAS NUCLEAR ONE,
UNITS 1 & 2 (REPORTS 05000313/2012006 AND 05000368/2012006)

Dear Mr. Schwarz:

On August 16, 2012, the NRC completed its mid-cycle performance review of Arkansas Nuclear One, Units 1 and 2. The NRC reviewed the most recent quarterly performance indicators (PIs) in addition to inspection results and enforcement actions from July 1, 2011, through June 30, 2012. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of your facility during this period and its plans for future inspections at your facility. The security inspection plan will be sent via separate, non-publicly available correspondence.

The NRC determined the performance at Arkansas Nuclear One, Units 1 and 2, 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.

In its annual assessment letter dated March 5, 2012 (ML120610412), the NRC opened a substantive cross-cutting issue (SCCI) with the aspect of conservative assumptions in decision-making and adoption of requirements to demonstrate that the proposed action is safe in order to proceed rather than a requirement to demonstrate that it is unsafe in order to disapprove the action (H.1(b)). To address the SCCI, your staff performed a cause analysis and began implementing your corrective actions. However, you have not completed your corrective actions and informed us of your readiness for inspection. Therefore, the SCCI will remain open until you demonstrate sustainable performance improvements as evidenced by effective implementation of an appropriate corrective action plan that results in no safety significant inspection findings and a notable reduction in the overall number of inspection findings with the same common theme. Because this letter is the second consecutive assessment letter documenting an SCCI with the same cross-cutting aspect, the NRC requests that you provide a response to the SCCI in a public meeting with the NRC. The NRC plans to perform focused baseline inspections for this theme after you notify us in writing of your readiness for inspection. Therefore, the SCCI will remain open until the criteria, stated above are met.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through December 31, 2013. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. In addition to the baseline inspections, consistent with the Agency's actions related to Fukushima, the NRC will perform TI-187, "Inspection of Near-Term Task Force Recommendation 2.3 Flooding Walkdowns," and TI-188, "Inspection of Near-Term Task Force Recommendation 2.3 Seismic Walkdowns." 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.

Additionally, Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 1, is scheduled to enter its period of extended operation on May 20, 2014. As a result, Manual Chapter 2515, Appendix C, specifies that Supplemental Inspection Procedure 71003, "Post-Approval Site Inspection for License Renewal," must be completed. This procedure is divided in three phases. Phase 1 of this supplemental inspection procedure is scheduled in the enclosed inspection plan. The staff will also be conducting inspection efforts to address the requirements set forth in approved Temporary Instructions (TI's) which are also listed in the inspection plan. Scheduling and completion of these TI inspection efforts will be based on communication with the NRC regarding your preparedness for these inspections to proceed.

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) 200-1574 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,



Donald B. Allen, Chief
Project Branch E
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos.: 50-313, 50-368
License Nos.: DPR-51, NPF-6

Enclosure: Arkansas Nuclear One Inspection/Activity Plan

cc w/Enclosure: Electronic Distribution

Arkansas Nuclear One
Inspection / Activity Plan
09/01/2012 - 12/31/2013

Unit Number	Planned Dates		Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
	Start	End			
			92702	- FOLLOW-UP TO CONFIRMATORY ORDER (QA/QC)	1
1, 2	01/01/2012	12/31/2012	IP 92702	Followup On Corrective Actions For Violations And Deviations	
			TI 182	- TI182 REV OF UNDERGRD PIPE & TANK INITIA	2
1, 2	03/15/2012	12/31/2012	IP 2515/182	Review of the Implementation of the Industry Initiative to Control Degradation of Underground Piping	
			TI185	- TI 185 FOLLOWUP GRND WATER PROT INITIA	2
1, 2	03/15/2012	12/31/2012	IP 2515/185	Follow-up on the Industry's Ground Water Protection Initiative	
			EXAM	- INITIAL LICENSED OPERATOR EXAM	4
1	01/28/2013	02/01/2013	X02499	INITIAL EXAM FOR ANO UNIT 1 (03/01/2012)	
1	02/25/2013	03/05/2013	X02499	INITIAL EXAM FOR ANO UNIT 1 (03/01/2012)	
			TI-187	- FLOODING WALKDOWNS	3
1, 2	09/01/2012	12/31/2012	IP 2515/187	Inspection of Near-Term Task Force Recommendation 2.3 Flooding Walkdowns	
			TI-188	- SEISMIC WALKDOWNS	3
1, 2	09/01/2012	12/31/2012	IP 2515/188	Inspection of Near-Term Task Force Recommendation 2.3 Seismic Walkdowns	
			PSB2-08P	- INSERVICE INSPECTION - U2	4
2	09/17/2012	09/30/2012	IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR	
			RS12	- RADIATION SAFETY	2
1, 2	09/24/2012	09/28/2012	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1, 2	09/24/2012	09/28/2012	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	09/24/2012	09/28/2012	IP 71151-OR01	Occupational Exposure Control Effectiveness	
1	09/24/2012	09/28/2012	IP 71151-PR01	RETS/ODCM Radiological Effluent	
			EB1-07T	- HEAT SINK PERFORMANCE	1
1, 2	11/05/2012	11/09/2012	IP 7111107T	Heat Sink Performance	
			EP-1	- EP PROGRAM INSPECTION	1
1, 2	02/11/2013	02/15/2013	IP 7111402	Alert and Notification System Testing	
1, 2	02/11/2013	02/15/2013	IP 7111403	Emergency Preparedness Organization Staffing and Augmentation System	
1, 2	02/11/2013	02/15/2013	IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies	
			EP1	- BIENNIAL EP PROGRAM INSPECTION	1
1, 2	02/11/2013	02/15/2013	IP 7111401	Exercise Evaluation	
1, 2	02/11/2013	02/15/2013	IP 7111402	Alert and Notification System Testing	
1, 2	02/11/2013	02/15/2013	IP 7111403	Emergency Preparedness Organization Staffing and Augmentation System	
1, 2	02/11/2013	02/15/2013	IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies	
			PI&R 52B	- BIENNIAL PI&R	5
1, 2	03/04/2013	03/22/2013	IP 71152B	Problem Identification and Resolution	

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

**Arkansas Nuclear One
Inspection / Activity Plan
09/01/2012 - 12/31/2013**

Unit Number	Planned Dates Start End	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
		PSB2-RP - RADIATION SAFETY		2
1, 2	04/01/2013 04/05/2013	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1, 2	04/01/2013 04/05/2013	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1	04/01/2013 04/05/2013	IP 71151-OR01	Occupational Exposure Control Effectiveness	
1	04/01/2013 04/05/2013	IP 71151-PR01	RETS/ODCM Radiological Effluent	
		PSB2-ISI - INSERVICE INSPECTION		1
1	04/01/2013 04/12/2013	IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR	
		EB2-03 - POST-APPROVAL LICENSE RENEWAL		2
1	04/15/2013 04/19/2013	IP 71003	Post-Approval Site Inspection for License Renewal	
		EB2-05T - TRIENNIAL FIRE PROTECTION INSPECTION		4
1, 2	06/10/2013 06/14/2013	IP 7111105T	Fire Protection [Triennial]	
1, 2	06/24/2013 06/28/2013	IP 7111105T	Fire Protection [Triennial]	
		PSB2-RP - RADIATION SAFETY		2
1, 2	07/15/2013 07/19/2013	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1, 2	07/15/2013 07/19/2013	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	

Comments:

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