

March 26, 2013

MEMORANDUM TO: Kriss M. Kennedy, Director
Division of Reactor Projects
Region IV

FROM: Ho K. Nieh, Director */RA/*
Division of Inspection and Regional Support
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: CY 2012 BASELINE INSPECTION COMPLETION

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide clarification on baseline inspection program completion in accordance with Inspection Manual Chapter (IMC) - 2515 "Light-Water Reactor Inspection Program - Operations Phase." In your memorandum dated March 6, 2013 (ML13065A002), it was stated that Inspection Procedure (IP) 71111.11 "Licensed Operator Requalification Program and Licensed Operator Performance" had not been completed at San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS) or Grand Gulf Nuclear Station (GGNS). The reason at both plants was that information the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) required to complete the inspection had not been submitted by the licensee until December 20, 2012. The inspectors reviewed the information; however, they were not able to contact appropriate licensee staff to resolve any questions because of the holidays. The questions were resolved in early January and the inspectors documented the inspection in the first quarter report for SONGS and GGNS.

Licensee schedules for plant activities are outside the control of inspectors. IMC-2515 Section 08.04 provides provisions for when there is an insufficient number of risk significant samples available for inspection (e.g., a reduction of sample size to zero, if necessary, when no samples exist). However, neither IP 71111.11 nor IMC-2515 specifically discusses the carryover of an in progress inspection from one calendar year to the next. The NRC program office will revise the inspection program to clarify that delays in licensee schedules do not reflect non-completion of the inspection program, when the inspection is in progress.

In summary, the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation has determined the baseline inspection program has been completed in Region IV.

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