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BELL BEND NUCLEAR POWER PLANT
PLANNING INFORMATION: NRC QA INSPECTION
BNP-2013-097 Docket No. 52-039

The purpose of this letter is to provide the staff with information regarding ongoing PPL Bell Bend, LLC (PPL) transition activities for the purpose of developing the appropriate timing of an NRC Quality Assurance (QA) inspection for the Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant (BBNPP) Combined License Application (COLA).

As the staff is aware, UniStar Nuclear Energy (UniStar) has provided COLA support to PPL since the inception of the BBNPP project, which is based upon a U.S. EPR design. This relationship has provided significant synergies in that UniStar is also processing the Reference COLA for the U.S. EPR technology.

From the inception of these projects, PPL planned to perform a transition to become less dependent on UniStar, as the Reference COLA reached the final stages of NRC review. We are currently working with UniStar to carefully identify and implement the appropriate steps to effect this transition, which includes activities that are within the scope of the NRC QA inspection procedure (IP 35017). Examples include records transfer from UniStar to PPL, establishment of several new safety related contracts by PPL, a number of new or revised project procedures, and a PPL QA audit of UniStar in the first quarter of NRC FY 2014. A plan is currently in place to support the new infrastructure, and our current projection with contingencies is that the final elements of the transition will be completed by May 30, 2014.

Accordingly, PPL recommends that the NRC inspection be planned for the fourth quarter of NRC FY 2014, which would allow a reasonable amount of "run time" with the new infrastructure in place.

If you have any questions, please contact the undersigned at 610.774.7552.

Respectfully,

Rocco R. Sgarro

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MRO

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