



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

REGION IV
1600 E LAMAR BLVD
ARLINGTON, TX 76011-4511

August 31, 2016

Mr. Dennis Koehl
President and Chief Executive Officer
STP Nuclear Operating Company
P.O. Box 289
Wadsworth, TX 77483

**SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT
ELECTRIC GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2
(REPORT 05000498/2016005 AND 05000499/2016005)**

Dear Mr. Koehl:

On August 9, 2016, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed its mid-cycle performance review of South Texas Project Electric Generating Station, 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, 2015 through June 30, 2016. 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 NRC determined that overall, South Texas Project Electric Generating Station, Units 1 and 2, operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and met all cornerstone objectives. The NRC determined the performance at South Texas Project Electric Generating Station, Units 1 and 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 June 30, 2018. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. The inspections listed during the second half 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. This inspection plan does not include security related inspections, which will be sent via separate, non-publicly available correspondence.

In response to the accident at Fukushima, the Commission issued Order EA-12-049, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Requirements for Mitigation Strategies for Beyond-Design-Basis External Events," and Order EA-12-051, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Reliable Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation." The NRC conducted audits of licensee efforts

towards compliance with these Orders, and the information gathered will aid staff in development of the ultimate Safety Evaluation for the site. After the NRC staff receives the Final Compliance letter for the site, the Safety Evaluation will be issued. Then, the NRC staff will confirm through inspections the full implementation of the orders mentioned above by performing Temporary Instruction 191, "Inspection of the Implementation of Mitigation Strategies and Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation Orders and Emergency Preparedness Communication/Staffing/Multi-Unit Dose Assessment Plans."

In Staff Requirements Memorandum – SECY 16-0009, "Recommendations Resulting from the Integrated Prioritization and Re-Baselining of Agency Activities," the Commission approved the NRC staff recommendation to discontinue the formal mid-cycle assessment process beginning in calendar year 2017. This will be the final mid-cycle assessment letter. The staff will continue to conduct quarterly assessment meetings and communicate changes in the assessment of licensee performance in accordance with the guidance in Inspection Manual Chapter 0305, "Operating Reactor Assessment Program."

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (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 Agencywide Documents Access and Management 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 817-200-1141 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Nicholas H. Taylor, Chief
Projects Branch B
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos.: 50-498, 50-499
License Nos.: NPF-76 and NPF-80

Enclosure:
South Texas Project Electric Generating
Station, Units 1 and 2 Inspection/
Activity Plan

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South Texas Project
Inspection / Activity Plan
07/01/2016 - 06/30/2018

| Unit Number | Planned Dates | | Inspection Activity | Title | No. of Staff on Site |
|---|---------------|------------|---------------------|---|----------------------|
| | Start | End | | | |
| EP-2 - EP PERFORMANCE INDICATORS | | | | | 2 |
| 1 | 07/11/2016 | 07/15/2016 | IP 71151-EP01 | Drill/Exercise Performance | |
| 1 | 07/11/2016 | 07/15/2016 | IP 71151-EP02 | ERO Readiness | |
| 1 | 07/11/2016 | 07/15/2016 | IP 71151-EP03 | Alert & Notification System Reliability | |
| EP-3 - BIENNIAL EP EXERCISE INSPECTION | | | | | 4 |
| 1 | 07/11/2016 | 07/15/2016 | IP 7111401 | Exercise Evaluation | |
| 1 | 07/11/2016 | 07/15/2016 | IP 7111404 | Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes | |
| TSB 52B - BIENNIAL PI&R INSPECTION | | | | | 4 |
| 1,2 | 08/08/2016 | 08/12/2016 | IP 71152B | Problem Identification and Resolution | |
| 1,2 | 08/22/2016 | 08/26/2016 | IP 71152B | Problem Identification and Resolution | |
| 71111.08 - INSERVICE INSPECTION | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 10/10/2016 | 10/21/2016 | IP 7111108P | Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR | |
| RS 12 PI - RADIATION SAFETY | | | | | 2 |
| 1,2 | 10/24/2016 | 10/28/2016 | IP 71124.01 | Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls | |
| 1,2 | 10/24/2016 | 10/28/2016 | IP 71124.02 | Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls | |
| 1,2 | 10/24/2016 | 10/28/2016 | IP 71151-OR01 | Occupational Exposure Control Effectiveness | |
| 1,2 | 10/24/2016 | 10/28/2016 | IP 71151-PR01 | RETS/ODCM Radiological Effluent Occurrences | |
| RS 5678 - RADIATION SAFETY - TEAM | | | | | 4 |
| 1,2 | 11/28/2016 | 12/02/2016 | IP 71124.05 | Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation | |
| 1,2 | 11/28/2016 | 12/02/2016 | IP 71124.06 | Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment | |
| 1,2 | 11/28/2016 | 12/02/2016 | IP 71124.07 | Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program | |
| 1,2 | 11/28/2016 | 12/02/2016 | IP 71124.08 | Radioactive Solid Waste Processing and Radioactive Material Handling, Storage, and Transportation | |
| EB2-05T - TRIENNIAL FIRE PROTECTION INSPECTION | | | | | 4 |
| 1,2 | 01/23/2017 | 01/27/2017 | IP 7111105T | Fire Protection [Triennial] | |
| 1,2 | 02/06/2017 | 02/10/2017 | IP 7111105T | Fire Protection [Triennial] | |
| EXAM - INITIAL EXAM | | | | | 6 |
| 1 | 08/14/2017 | 08/18/2017 | X02592 | INITIAL EXAM STP U1 (09/2017) | |
| 2 | 08/14/2017 | 08/18/2017 | X02593 | INITIAL EXAM STP U2 (09/2017) | |
| 1 | 09/25/2017 | 10/04/2017 | X02592 | INITIAL EXAM STP U1 (09/2017) | |
| 2 | 09/25/2017 | 10/04/2017 | X02593 | INITIAL EXAM STP U2 (09/2017) | |
| RS 13 PI - RADIATION SAFETY | | | | | 3 |
| 1,2 | 03/27/2017 | 03/31/2017 | IP 71124.01 | Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls | |
| 1,2 | 03/27/2017 | 03/31/2017 | IP 71124.03 | In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation | |
| 1,2 | 03/27/2017 | 03/31/2017 | 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.

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| | Start | End | | | |
| | | | RS 13 PI - RADIATION SAFETY | | 3 |
| 1, 2 | 03/27/2017 | 03/31/2017 | IP 71151-PR01 | RETS/ODCM Radiological Effluent Occurrences | |
| | | | 71111.08 - INSERVICE INSPECTION UNIT 1 | | 1 |
| 1 | 03/27/2017 | 04/07/2017 | IP 7111108P | Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR | |
| | | | EP-1 - BIENNIAL EP PROGRAM INSPECTION | | 1 |
| 1, 2 | 05/08/2017 | 05/12/2017 | IP 7111402 | Alert and Notification System Testing | |
| 1, 2 | 05/08/2017 | 05/12/2017 | IP 7111403 | Emergency Preparedness Organization Staffing and Augmentation System | |
| 1, 2 | 05/08/2017 | 05/12/2017 | IP 7111404 | Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes | |
| 1, 2 | 05/08/2017 | 05/12/2017 | IP 7111405 | Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies | |
| | | | EP-2 - EP PERFORMANCE INDICATOR VERIFICATION | | 1 |
| 1, 2 | 05/08/2017 | 05/12/2017 | IP 71151-EP01 | Drill/Exercise Performance | |
| 1, 2 | 05/08/2017 | 05/12/2017 | IP 71151-EP02 | ERO Readiness | |
| 1, 2 | 05/08/2017 | 05/12/2017 | IP 71151-EP03 | Alert & Notification System Reliability | |
| | | | EB1-17T - STP 50.59 EVALUATIONS OF CHANGES, TESTS | | 3 |
| 1, 2 | 05/22/2017 | 05/26/2017 | IP 7111117T | Evaluations of Changes, Tests, and Experiments and Permanent Plant Modifications | |
| 1, 2 | 06/05/2017 | 06/09/2017 | IP 7111117T | Evaluations of Changes, Tests, and Experiments and Permanent Plant Modifications | |
| | | | ISFSI - DRY RUN INSPECTION (MULTIPLE WEEKS) | | 1 |
| 1, 2 | 06/01/2017 | 07/20/2017 | IP 60854.1 | Preoperational Testing of Independent Spent Fuel Storage Facility Installation at Operating Plants | |
| | | | RS 24 - RADIATION SAFETY | | 2 |
| 1, 2 | 07/31/2017 | 08/04/2017 | IP 71124.02 | Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls | |
| 1, 2 | 07/31/2017 | 08/04/2017 | IP 71124.04 | Occupational Dose Assessment | |
| | | | ISFSI - FIRST CASK LOADING INSPECTION | | 1 |
| 1, 2 | 08/01/2017 | 08/10/2017 | IP 60855.1 | Operation of an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation at Operating Plants | |
| | | | BRQ - BRQ INSPECTION | | 3 |
| 1, 2 | 08/28/2017 | 09/01/2017 | IP 7111111B | Licensed Operator Requalification Program | |
| | | | 7111108 - INSERVICE INSPECTION UNIT 2 | | 1 |
| 2 | 04/02/2018 | 04/13/2018 | IP 7111108P | Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR | |
| | | | EB1-07T - STP HEAT SINK PERFORMANCE | | 1 |
| 1, 2 | 06/11/2018 | 06/15/2018 | IP 7111107T | Heat Sink Performance | |
| | | | EP-1 - EP EXERCISE INSPECTION | | 4 |
| 1, 2 | 06/11/2018 | 06/15/2018 | IP 7111401 | Exercise Evaluation | |
| 1, 2 | 06/11/2018 | 06/15/2018 | IP 7111404 | Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes | |
| 1, 2 | 06/11/2018 | 06/15/2018 | IP 71151-EP01 | Drill/Exercise Performance | |

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| | Start | End | | | |
| EP-1 - EP EXERCISE INSPECTION | | | | | 4 |
| 1, 2 | 06/11/2018 | 06/15/2018 | IP 71151-EP02 | ERO Readiness | |
| 1, 2 | 06/11/2018 | 06/15/2018 | IP 71151-EP03 | Alert & Notification System Reliability | |

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Nicholas H. Taylor, Chief
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Enclosure:
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Station, Units 1 and 2 Inspection/
Activity Plan

DISTRIBUTION:
See next page

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| SIGNATURE | <i>/RA/</i> | <i>/RA Jeff Clark for/</i> | | <i>/RA/</i> | <i>/RA/</i> | | | | |
| DATE | 8/22/16 | 8/22/16 | | 8/23/16 | 8/23/16 | | | | |

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Letter to Dennis Koehl from Nicholas H. Taylor dated August 31, 2016

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT
ELECTRIC GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2
(REPORT 05000498/2016005 AND 05000499/2016005)

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