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MEMORANDUM FOR: Robert A. Purple, Deputy Director, Division of Licensing, NRR
Ashok C. Thadani, Acting Branch Chief, Reliability and Risk
Assessment Branch, Division of Safety Technology, NRR
Elinor G. Adensam, Acting Branch Chief, Operating Evaluation
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FROM: Samuel E. Bryan, Chief, Program Development Branch
Division of Program Development and Appraisal, IE NJC-PA

SUBJECT: MINIMUM REACTOR INSPECTION PROGRAM PERFORMED BY RESIDENT INSPECTOR

Enclosed is a Temporary Instruction that we have issued to resident inspectors that specifies the minimum inspection activities that are permissible at a reactor unit, unless an operational event interferes. We have found it necessary to specify a minimum program because of unusual demands on the residents' time both external and internal to NRC, such as, those to follow bulletins and to verify THI Action Plan items and regional established priorities.

The inspection objective continues to be completion of the normal program; however, we recognize that there are legitimate reasons for diversion. We want to place controls on and limits to the diversions. This program allows the Regional Division Director to declare the plant in the minimum program when certain inspection procedures cannot be completed. It can remain in this status for 2 months on his authority and can only be extended by the regional director.

By issuing this minimum program, we are essentially saying that this is the least operational safety verification we can live with that will give us reasonable confidence that the plant is in a state of readiness to deal with safety challenges.

We invite your comments, especially on the daily control room activities and omissions. We will consider your comments when we convert this instruction into a manual chapter. Your comments will be appreciated.

Samuel E. Bryan, Chief
Program Development Branch
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