



CHAIRMAN

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

October 15, 2020

The Honorable Debbie Mucarsel-Powell
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Mucarsel-Powell:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am responding to your September 1, 2020, letter urging the agency to examine seriously safety culture at the Turkey Point Nuclear Generating Station (Turkey Point) after three unplanned shutdowns in August 2020 and concerns related to inspection and maintenance were identified in 2019. You also requested additional information about whether plant employees and the public were at risk at any time during the recent shutdowns.

As discussed during a briefing with your staff on September 11, 2020, the NRC initiated a special inspection following the unplanned shutdowns by assembling a five-person team to review and assess the circumstances of each shutdown, the licensee's response, reactor operator performance, and actions taken to correct the situation. This is in addition to the safety inspections routinely performed at Turkey Point by the NRC's onsite resident inspectors supplemented as needed by inspectors from one of our regional offices. The special inspection team members have expertise in reactor operations, risk analysis, and engineering and are being supported by staff specifically trained in evaluating safety culture. As part of its initial assessment, the NRC staff determined that there was no impact on public health and safety resulting from the unplanned shutdowns. The special inspection team will continue its activities to assess licensee performance and response. The inspection report from the team is expected to be completed and publicly available in early November 2020. Additional detailed information about the special inspection and your specific concerns about Turkey Point is provided in the enclosure to this letter.

I appreciate your interest in these matters. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me or have your staff contact Eugene Dacus, Director of the Office of Congressional Affairs, at (301) 415-1776.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "K. Svinicki".

Kristine L. Svinicki

Enclosure:
As stated