



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
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ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4005**

August 30, 2004

Paul D. Hinnenkamp
Vice President - Operations
Entergy Operations, Inc.
River Bend Station
5485 US Highway 61N
St. Francisville, LA 70775

SUBJECT: MIDCYCLE PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND INSPECTION PLAN - RIVER BEND STATION

Dear Mr. Hinnenkamp:

On August 4, 2004, the NRC staff completed its midcycle plant performance assessment of River Bend Station. The midcycle review for River Bend Station involved the participation of all technical divisions in evaluating performance for the first half of the calendar year 2004 assessment cycle. The process included a review of performance indicators (PIs) for the most recent quarter and inspection results over the previous 12 months. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our assessment of your safety performance during this period and our plans for future inspections at your facility so that you will have an opportunity to prepare for these inspections and to inform us of any planned inspections that may conflict with your plant activities.

This performance review and inspection plan does not include physical protection information. A separate letter designated and marked as "Exempt from Public Disclosure in Accordance with 10 CFR 2.390" will include the physical protection review and resultant inspection plan.

Plant performance for the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC's Action Matrix, based on all inspection findings being classified as having very low safety significance (Green) and all PIs indicating performance at a level requiring no additional NRC oversight (Green). Therefore, we plan to conduct only reactor oversight process baseline inspections at your facility through March 31, 2006.

The NRC issued a White inspection finding and associated Notice of Violation in a letter to you dated December 29, 2003. The issue was initially discussed in NRC Inspection Report 05000458/2002-07, dated February 7, 2003. It was also discussed in our annual assessment letter, dated March 3, 2004. This finding involved the failure to properly lock open a valve in the condensate system that resulted in a loss of feedwater flow following a reactor scram in September 2002. A supplemental inspection utilizing Inspection Procedure 95001, "Inspection for One or Two White inputs in a Strategic Performance Area," was performed February 23-27, 2004, to assess the adequacy of your evaluation and to review the corrective actions you have taken for this risk-significant performance issue. Upon completion of the inspection, a Regulatory Performance Meeting was conducted as prescribed in NRC Manual

Chapter 0305 to discuss the event, root causes, and corrective actions. The supplemental inspection concluded that your staff performed a comprehensive evaluation of the event. The corrective actions taken to address the issues and to prevent recurrence were satisfactory and have been completed.

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections, except those related to physical protection, scheduled through March 31, 2006. The inspection plan is provided to minimize the resource impact on your staff and to allow for scheduling conflicts and personnel availability to be resolved in advance of inspector arrival onsite. Routine resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature. The inspections in the last 12 months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the end-of-cycle review meeting.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

If circumstances arise which cause us to change the inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact Mr. David N. Graves at 817-860-8141 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Arthur T. Howell III, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket: 50-458
License: NPF-47

Enclosure:
River Bend Station Inspection/Activity Plan

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RidsNrrDipmlipb

ADAMS: Yes No Initials: ATH
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RIV:C:DRP/B	D:DRS	D:DRP		
DNGraves;df	DDChamberlain	ATHowell		
/RA/	VLOrdaz for	/RA/		
8/13/04	8/25/04	8/28/04		

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River Bend
Inspection / Activity Plan
 08/01/2004 - 03/31/2006

Unit Number	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site	Planned Dates		Inspection Type
				Start	End	
	OB-IN EX	- OB - INITIAL EXAMINATION	7			
1	X02267	RIVER BEND (09/04) INITIAL EXAM		09/06/2004	09/10/2004	Not Applicable
1	X02267	RIVER BEND (09/04) INITIAL EXAM		09/20/2004	09/24/2004	Not Applicable
	EB-08G	- INSERVICE INSPECTION ACTIVITIES	1			
1	IP 7111108G	Inservice Inspection Activities - BWR		10/25/2004	10/29/2004	Baseline Inspections
	ACCESSPI	- ACRSA/PIV	1			
1	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		10/25/2004	10/29/2004	Baseline Inspections
	PEB-07B	- HX & HEAT SINK PERFORMANCE TESTING	2			
1	IP 7111107B	Heat Sink Performance		11/29/2004	12/03/2004	Baseline Inspections
	ALARA2	- ALARA PLANNING AND CONTROLS 2	1			
1	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		02/28/2005	03/04/2005	Baseline Inspections
	EB02/17B	- PERMANENT PLANT MODS	2			
1	IP 7111117B	Permanent Plant Modifications		03/07/2005	03/11/2005	Baseline Inspections
	OB-EP2	- EMERG PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM INSPECTION	1			
1	IP 7111402	Alert and Notification System Testing		06/13/2005	06/17/2005	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7111403	Emergency Response Organization Augmentation Testing		06/13/2005	06/17/2005	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes		06/13/2005	06/17/2005	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies		06/13/2005	06/17/2005	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		06/13/2005	06/17/2005	Baseline Inspections
	ACRSA	- ACCESS CONTROL TO RAD SIGNIFICANT AREAS	1			
1	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		06/20/2005	06/24/2005	Baseline Inspections
	ALARA3	- ALARA PLANNING AND CONTROLS	1			
1	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		09/26/2005	09/30/2005	Baseline Inspections
	PEB-52	- RBS PIR INSPECTION	3			
1	IP 71152B	Identification and Resolution of Problems		10/31/2005	11/04/2005	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 71152B	Identification and Resolution of Problems		11/14/2005	11/18/2005	Baseline Inspections
	RP TEAM	- RADIATION SAFETY TEAM INSPECTION	4			
1	IP 7112103	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation and Protective Equipment		10/30/2005	11/04/2005	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112201	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment and Monitoring Systems		10/30/2005	11/04/2005	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112202	Radioactive Material Processing and Transportation		10/30/2005	11/04/2005	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112203	Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program		10/30/2005	11/04/2005	Baseline Inspections
	EB-08G	- IN SERVICE INSPECTION (BOILER)	1			
1	IP 7111108G	Inservice Inspection Activities - BWR		03/20/2006	03/24/2006	Baseline Inspections

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.
 This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.