



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
REGION II  
245 PEACHTREE CENTER AVENUE NE, SUITE 1200  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-1257

September 3, 2013

Mr. Joseph W. Shea  
Vice President, Nuclear Licensing  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
1101 Market Street, LP 3D-C  
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

**SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR WATTS BAR UNIT 1 (NRC  
INSPECTION REPORT 05000390/2013006)**

Dear Mr. Shea:

On August 15, 2013, the NRC completed its mid-cycle performance review of the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant Unit 1. The NRC reviewed the most recent quarterly performance indicators (PIs) in addition to inspection results and enforcement actions from July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2013. 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 the performance at the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant Unit 1 during the most recent quarter was within the Degraded Cornerstone Column of the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Action Matrix beginning in the first quarter 2013 based on one White and one Yellow finding in the Mitigating Systems Cornerstone documented in NRC Inspection Report 05000390/2013009 (ADAMS Accession Number ML13155A572).

Because Unit 1 was assessed in the Degraded Cornerstone column of the NRC's Action Matrix, additional regulatory oversight actions will be implemented at your facility. Therefore, in addition to ROP baseline inspections, the NRC plans to conduct a supplemental inspection in accordance with Inspection Procedure 95002, "Supplemental Inspection for One Degraded Cornerstone or Any Three White Inputs in a Strategic Performance Area." This inspection will be performed when you have notified us of your readiness for the NRC to review the actions taken to address the performance issues.

During this assessment period, the NRC identified a cross-cutting theme in the Work Practices component of the Human Performance & Error Prevention cross-cutting area. Specifically, five Green inspection findings for the current 12-month assessment period, each with a documented cross-cutting aspect of "Supervisory and Management Oversight" (H.4.(c)) were identified. The NRC determined that a substantive cross-cutting issue (SCCI) was not warranted at this time because the NRC does not have a concern with your staff's scope of effort and progress in addressing the cross-cutting theme. This is based on TVA's actions, which began in early 2013, in addressing several findings associated with this Cross Cutting Aspect (CCA). In addition, two of the five CCA's were assigned in the second quarter of 2013, which were the result of issues with the licensee's flood mitigation strategy that would not have been reasonably identified by

the previous efforts to address this CCA. The CCAs were in the Mitigating Systems and Initiating Events Reactor Oversight Process cornerstones. The NRC has determined that the corrective action program needs a reasonable amount of time to incorporate the new issues into your corrective actions. The NRC will continue to monitor your staff's effort and progress in addressing this theme and reassess this area during the next assessment cycle.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through December 31, 2014. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. The inspections listed during the last nine months 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 addition to the ROP baseline inspections at your facility, we also plan on conducting infrequently performed inspections which include: Inspection Procedure (IP) 92702, Follow up On Traditional Enforcement Actions Including Violations, Deviations, Confirmatory Action Letters, Confirmatory Orders, And Alternative Dispute Resolution Confirmatory Orders; and TI 2515/182, "Review of the Implementation of the Industry Initiative to Control Degradation of Underground Piping and Tanks."

In accordance with 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 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).

Please contact Scott Shaeffer at 404-997-4521 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Victor M McCree  
Regional Administrator

Docket Nos.: 50-390  
License Nos.: NPF-90

Enclosure: Watts Bar Inspection/Activity Plan  
(09/01/2013 – 12/31/2014)

cc: Distribution via Listserv

the previous efforts to address this CCA. The CCAs were in the Mitigating Systems and Initiating Events Reactor Oversight Process cornerstones. The NRC has determined that the corrective action program needs a reasonable amount of time to incorporate the new issues into your corrective actions. The NRC will continue to monitor your staff's effort and progress in addressing this theme and reassess this area during the next assessment cycle.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through December 31, 2014. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. The inspections listed during the last nine months 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 addition to the ROP baseline inspections at your facility, we also plan on conducting infrequently performed inspections which include: Inspection Procedure (IP) 92702, Follow up On Traditional Enforcement Actions Including Violations, Deviations, Confirmatory Action Letters, Confirmatory Orders, And Alternative Dispute Resolution Confirmatory Orders; and TI 2515/182, "Review of the Implementation of the Industry Initiative to Control Degradation of Underground Piping and Tanks."

In accordance with 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 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).

Please contact Scott Shaeffer at 404-997-4521 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,  
/RA/

Victor M McCree  
Regional Administrator

Docket Nos.: 50-390  
License Nos.: NPF-90

Enclosure: Watts Bar Inspection/Activity Plan  
(09/01/2013 – 12/31/2014)

cc: Distribution via Listserv

PUBLICLY AVAILABLE       NON-PUBLICLY AVAILABLE       SENSITIVE       NON-SENSITIVE  
ADAMS:  Yes      ACCESSION NUMBER: ML13246A191       SUNSI REVIEW COMPLETE       FORM 665 ATTACHED

OFFICE	RII:DRP	RII:DRP	RII:DRP	RII:ORA	RII:ORA		
SIGNATURE	JDH /RA/	SMS /RA/	RPC /RA/	LDW /RA/	VMM /RA/		
NAME	JHamman	SShaeffer	RCroteau	LWert	VMcCree		
DATE	08/22/2013	08/28/2013	08/29/2013	08/29/2013	08/29/2013		
E-MAIL COPY?	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO

J. Shea

3

Letter to Joseph W. Shea from Victor M. McCree dated September 3, 2013

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR WATTS BAR UNIT 1 (NRC  
INSPECTION REPORT 05000390/2013006)

DISTRIBUTION:

C. Evans, RII

L. Douglas, RII

OE Mail

RIDSNNRRDIRS

PUBLIC

RidsNrrPMWattsBar1 Resource

RidsNrrPMWattsBar2 Resource

Institute of Nuclear Power Operations (INPO)

ROP Reports

## Watts Bar

## Inspection / Activity Plan

09/01/2013 - 12/31/2014

Unit Number	Planned Dates Start End	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
1	09/09/2013 09/13/2013	TFPI - TRIENNIAL FIRE PROTECTION INSP		5
		IP 7111105T	Fire Protection [Triennial]	
1	09/23/2013 09/27/2013	IP 7111105T	Fire Protection [Triennial]	
1	10/28/2013 11/01/2013	EP - EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS EXERCISE		1
		IP 7111401	Exercise Evaluation	
1	10/28/2013 11/01/2013	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
1	09/21/2013 09/25/2013	OL EXAM - INITIAL EXAM PREP		3
		V23395	WATTS BAR/OCTOBER 2013 INITIAL EXAM AT POWER FACILITIES	
1	10/14/2013 10/18/2013	OL EXAM - INITIAL EXAM WEEK 1		3
		V23395	WATTS BAR/OCTOBER 2013 INITIAL EXAM AT POWER FACILITIES	
1	10/21/2013 10/25/2013	OL EXAM - INITIAL EXAM WEEK 2		4
		V23395	WATTS BAR/OCTOBER 2013 INITIAL EXAM AT POWER FACILITIES	
1	03/31/2014 04/04/2014	ISI - UNIT 1 IN-SERVICE INSPECTION		1
		IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR	
1	04/07/2014 04/11/2014	SGISI - UNIT 1 SG IN-SERVICE INSPECTION		1
		IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR	
1	04/14/2014 04/18/2014	RP - RADIOLOGICAL HAZARDS AND TRANSPORTATION		2
		IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1	04/14/2014 04/18/2014	IP 71124.08	Radioactive Solid Waste Processing and Radioactive Material Handling, Storage, and Transportation	
1	04/14/2014 04/18/2014	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
1	06/02/2014 06/04/2014	TI-182 - TI-182 BURIED PIPING/TANK - PHASE 2		1
		IP 2515/182	Review of the Implementation of the Industry Initiative to Control Degradation of Underground Piping	
1	07/28/2014 08/01/2014	RP - RP PUBLIC RADIATION BASELINE		2
		IP 71124.06	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment	
1	07/28/2014 08/01/2014	IP 71124.07	Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program	
1	07/28/2014 08/01/2014	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
1	10/06/2014 10/10/2014	EP - EP PROGRAM INSPECTION		1
		IP 7111402	Alert and Notification System Testing	
1	10/06/2014 10/10/2014	IP 7111403	Emergency Preparedness Organization Staffing and Augmentation System	
1	10/06/2014 10/10/2014	IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies	

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

Unit Number	Planned Dates Start End	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
-------------	----------------------------	---------------------	-------	----------------------

1	10/06/2014 10/10/2014	EP - EP PROGRAM INSPECTION IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	1
---	-----------------------	--	------------------------------------	---

Comments:

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