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NRC Begins Special Inspection at Grand Gulf Nuclear Power Plant

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has begun a special inspection at the Grand Gulf nuclear power plant to review events that led to, and occurred following, an unplanned shutdown on December 12. The plant, operated by Entergy Operations, is located in Port Gibson, Miss.

The plant was operating at full power when operators noticed an unexpected increase in reactor power and decided to shut down as a precautionary measure. The reactor was safely shut down but some equipment issues occurred that the agency wants to better understand.

The two-member NRC team will spend about a week on site developing a chronology of the event, and evaluating the licensee's cause analysis and the adequacy of corrective actions. An inspection report documenting the team's findings will be publicly available within 45 days of the end of the inspection.