



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

REGION IV
1600 E. LAMAR BLVD
ARLINGTON, TX 76011-4511

September 1, 2015

Mr. Eric W. Olson, Site Vice President
Entergy Operations, Inc.
River Bend Station
5485 U.S. Highway 61N
St. Francisville, LA 70775

**SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR RIVER BEND STATION
(05000458/2015005)**

Dear Mr. Olson:

On August 13, 2015, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed its mid-cycle performance review of the River Bend Station. The NRC reviewed the most recent quarterly performance indicators (PIs) in addition to the inspection results and enforcement actions from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015. 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 River Bend Station during the most recent quarter was within the Regulatory Response Column of the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Action Matrix because of one or more greater-than-green Security Cornerstone inputs as described in Inspection Report 05000458/2014406, dated September 24, 2014. In addition, the River Bend Station's safety-significant performance indicator for Unplanned Scrams with Complications, crossed the Green-White threshold during the 4th Quarter 2014 (Initiating Events Cornerstone). This White input is not in the same strategic performance area as the finding(s) in the Security Cornerstone described above, and as a result, the River Bend Station remains in the Regulatory Response Column.

The NRC is still awaiting notification that you are prepared to schedule supplemental Inspection Procedure 95001, "Supplemental Inspection for One or Two White Inputs in a Strategic Performance Area," to review your actions in response to the PI for Unplanned Scrams with Complications.

On July 7, 2015, the NRC issued Inspection Report 05000458/2015009 with a Preliminary White Finding (ML15188A532), relating to simulator fidelity. On July 30, 2015, you responded to the Preliminary White Finding, indicating that the River Bend Station agreed with the performance deficiency and violation. The NRC is in the process of preparing a final significance determination letter and notice of violation for this finding. The final safety significance determination may affect the NRC's assessment of plant performance and the enclosed inspection plan.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through June 30, 2017. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. The inspections listed during the second half 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

E. Olson

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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 response to the accident at Fukushima, the Commission issued Order EA-12-049, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Requirements for Mitigation Strategies for Beyond-Design-Basis External Events," which requires licensees to develop, implement, and maintain guidance and strategies to maintain or restore core cooling, containment, and spent fuel pool cooling capabilities following a beyond-design-basis external event. Additionally, the Commission issued Order EA-12-051, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Reliable Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation," which requires licensees to have a reliable means of remotely monitoring wide-range Spent Fuel Pool levels to support effective prioritization of event mitigation and recovery actions in the event of a beyond-design-basis external event. The NRC is conducting audits of licensee efforts towards compliance with these Orders. The audit has been completed at the River Bend Station, and the information gathered will aid staff in development of the ultimate Safety Evaluation for the site. After the NRC staff receives the Final Compliance letter for the site, the Final Safety Evaluation will be issued. Then, the NRC staff will confirm through inspections the full implementation of the orders mentioned above by performing Temporary Instruction 2515/191, "Inspection of the Implementation of Mitigating Strategies and Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation Orders and Emergency Preparedness Communication/Staffing/Multi-Unit Dose Assessment Plans."

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (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 Website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Please contact Greg Warnick at (817) 200-1144 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Troy Pruett, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No: 50-458
License No: NPF-47

Enclosure:
River Bend Station Inspection/Activity Plan

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Distribution:
See next page

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OFFICE	RIV/DRP C/BC	RIV/DRS/DIR	RIV/DRP/DIR
NAME	GWarnick	AVegel	TPruett
SIGNATURE	/RA/	/RA/	/RA/
DATE	08/26/15	08/26/15	08/27/15

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Letter to Eric Olson from Troy Pruett dated September 1, 2015

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR RIVER BEND STATION
(REPORT 05000458/2015005)

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River Bend

Inspection / Activity Plan

07/01/2015 - 06/30/2017

Unit Number	Planned Dates Start	Planned Dates End	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
1	06/29/2015	07/02/2015	TSB 52B - BIENNIAL PI&R INSPECTION	Problem Identification and Resolution	4
1	08/17/2015	08/21/2015	EP-1 - BIENNIAL EP PROGRAM INSPECTION	Alert and Notification System Testing	1
1	08/17/2015	08/21/2015	IP 7111402	Emergency Preparedness Organization Staffing and Augmentation System	
1	08/17/2015	08/21/2015	IP 7111403	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes	
1	08/17/2015	08/21/2015	IP 7111404	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies	
1	08/17/2015	08/21/2015	EP-2 - EP PERFORMANCE INDICATORS		1
1	08/17/2015	08/21/2015	IP 71151-EP01	Drill/Exercise Performance	
1	08/17/2015	08/21/2015	IP 71151-EP02	ERO Readiness	
1	08/17/2015	08/21/2015	IP 71151-EP03	Alert & Notification System Reliability	
1	09/21/2015	10/09/2015	EB1-17T - RBS PERMANENT PLANT MODS & 50.59	Evaluations of Changes, Tests, and Experiments and Permanent Plant Modifications	5
1	12/07/2015	12/11/2015	RS 5678 - RADIATION SAFETY - TEAM		4
1	12/07/2015	12/11/2015	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
1	12/07/2015	12/11/2015	IP 71124.06	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment	
1	12/07/2015	12/11/2015	IP 71124.07	Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program	
1	12/07/2015	12/11/2015	IP 71124.08	Radioactive Solid Waste Processing and Radioactive Material Handling, Storage, and Transportation	
1	08/15/2016	08/19/2016	EXAM - INITIAL EXAM		4
1	09/12/2016	09/16/2016	X02575	INITIAL EXAM RIVER BEND STATION UNIT 1 (09/2016)	
1	01/18/2016	01/22/2016	X02575	INITIAL EXAM RIVER BEND STATION UNIT 1 (09/2016)	
1	01/18/2016	01/22/2016	RS 24 - RADIATION SAFETY		2
1	01/18/2016	01/22/2016	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	01/18/2016	01/22/2016	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1	04/11/2016	04/15/2016	EB2-05T - TRIENNIAL FIRE PROTECTION INSPECTION		4
1	04/25/2016	04/29/2016	IP 7111105T	Fire Protection [Triennial]	
1	06/01/2016	06/01/2016	IP 7111105T	Fire Protection [Triennial]	
1	06/01/2016	06/01/2016	ISFSI - ROUTINE LOADING INSPECTION (ONE WEEK)		1
1	06/01/2016	06/01/2016	IP 60855.1	Operation of an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation at Operating Plants	
1	06/13/2016	06/17/2016	RS 13 PI - RADIATION SAFETY		2
1	06/13/2016	06/17/2016	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1	06/13/2016	06/17/2016	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1	06/13/2016	06/17/2016	IP 71151-OR01	Occupational Exposure Control Effectiveness	
1	06/13/2016	06/17/2016	IP 71151-PR01	RETS/ODCM Radiological Effluent Occurrences	

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
		EP-2 - EP PERFORMANCE INDICATORS		2
1	06/27/2016 07/01/2016	IP 71151-EP01	Drill/Exercise Performance	
1	06/27/2016 07/01/2016	IP 71151-EP02	ERO Readiness	
1	06/27/2016 07/01/2016	IP 71151-EP03	Alert & Notification System Reliability	
		EP-3 - BIENNIAL EXERCISE INSPECTION		4
1	06/27/2016 07/01/2016	IP 7111401	Exercise Evaluation	
1	06/27/2016 07/01/2016	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes	
		INSP - BIENNIAL REQUAL INSPECTION		2
1	08/29/2016 09/02/2016	IP 7111111B	Licensed Operator Requalification Program	
		71111.08 - INSERVICE INSPECTION		1
1	02/13/2017 02/17/2017	IP 7111108G	Inservice Inspection Activities - BWR	
		RS 12 PI - RADIATION SAFETY		3
1	02/13/2017 02/17/2017	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1	02/13/2017 02/17/2017	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	02/13/2017 02/17/2017	IP 71151-OR01	Occupational Exposure Control Effectiveness	
1	02/13/2017 02/17/2017	IP 71151-PR01	RETS/ODCM Radiological Effluent Occurrences	
		EB1-21T - RBS COMPONENT DESIGN BASIS INSPECTION		5
1	03/27/2017 04/28/2017	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
		TSB 52B - BIENNIAL PI&R		5
1	06/12/2017 06/16/2017	IP 71152B	Problem Identification and Resolution	
1	06/26/2017 06/30/2017	IP 71152B	Problem Identification and Resolution	