



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4005

March 2, 2006

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

SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER - RIVER BEND STATION
(NRC INSPECTION REPORT 05000458/2006001)

Dear Mr. Hinnenkamp:

On February 7, 2006, the NRC staff completed its performance review of the River Bend Station. Our technical staff reviewed performance indicators for the most recent quarter and inspection results for the period from January 1 through December 31, 2005. 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.

This performance review and enclosed inspection plan do not include physical protection information. A separate letter designated and marked as "Official Use Only - Security-Related Information" will include the physical protection review and resultant inspection plan.

Overall, River Bend Station operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and fully met all cornerstone objectives. 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 performance indicators indicating performance at a level requiring no additional NRC oversight (Green). Therefore, we plan to conduct reactor oversight process baseline inspections at your facility.

While plant performance for the most recent quarter is within the Licensee Response column of the Action Matrix, the performance indicator for Unplanned Scrams per 7000 Critical Hours crossed the threshold from Green to White during the first quarter, and returned to Green in the third quarter. The supplemental inspection conducted as a result of the White performance indicator found that your staff performed a comprehensive and thorough evaluation in which specific problems were identified, an adequate root cause evaluation was performed, and corrective actions were taken or planned to prevent recurrence.

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspection, except those related to physical protection, scheduled through September 30, 2007. The inspection plan is provided to allow for the

resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues well in advance of inspector arrival onsite. Routine resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature. The inspections in the last 9 months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the midcycle review.

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 this inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact Mr. Kriss Kennedy at (817) 860-8144 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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RidsNrrDirslpab

SUNSI Review Completed: _kmk_ ADAMS: Yes No Initials: _kmk____
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RIV:C:DRP/C	D:DRS	D:DRP		
KMKennedy,df	DDChamberlain	ATHowell III		
/RA/	/RA/	/RA/		
2/24/06	2/24/06	2/24/06		

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River Bend
Inspection / Activity Plan
03/01/2006 - 09/30/2007

Unit Number	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site	Planned Dates		Inspection Type
				Start	End	
	EB1-08G - IN SERVICE INSPECTION (BOILER)		2			
1	IP 7111108G	Inservice Inspection Activities - BWR		04/17/2006	04/21/2006	Baseline Inspections
	RP-ORS - OCCUPATIONAL RADIATION SAFETY		1			
1	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		05/01/2006	05/05/2006	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		05/01/2006	05/05/2006	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		05/01/2006	05/05/2006	Baseline Inspections
	EB1-21 - CDB		8			
1	IP 7111102	Evaluation of Changes, Tests, or Experiments		06/05/2006	06/09/2006	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection		06/05/2006	06/09/2006	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection		06/19/2006	06/30/2006	Baseline Inspections
	EB2-12B - MAINTENANCE RULE BIENNIAL		2			
1	IP 7111112B	Maintenance Effectiveness		07/10/2006	07/14/2006	Baseline Inspections
	RP-ORS - OCCUPATIONAL RADIATION SAFETY		1			
1	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		07/17/2006	07/21/2006	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		07/17/2006	07/21/2006	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		07/17/2006	07/21/2006	Baseline Inspections
	BRQ SIM - BIENNIAL RQ SIM ONLY		1			
1	IP 7111111B	Licensed Operator Requalification Program		08/07/2006	08/11/2006	Baseline Inspections
	EP1 - EMERG PREPAREDNESS EXERCISE		3			
1	IP 7111401	Exercise Evaluation		08/14/2006	08/18/2006	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes		08/14/2006	08/18/2006	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		08/14/2006	08/18/2006	Baseline Inspections
	OB-RQ - REQUALIFICATION INSP		2			
1	IP 7111111B	Licensed Operator Requalification Program		08/21/2006	08/25/2006	Baseline Inspections
	EB2-07B - HX PERFORMANCE		1			
1	IP 7111107B	Heat Sink Performance		09/18/2006	09/22/2006	Baseline Inspections
	RP-ORS - OCCUPATIONAL RADIATION SAFETY		1			
1	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		01/08/2007	01/12/2007	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		01/08/2007	01/12/2007	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		01/08/2007	01/12/2007	Baseline Inspections
	EB2-05T - TRIENNIAL-FP		5			
1	IP 7111105T	Fire Protection [Triennial]		01/29/2007	02/02/2007	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7111105T	Fire Protection [Triennial]		02/12/2007	02/16/2007	Baseline Inspections
	EB2-52B - PIR INSPECTION		5			
1	IP 71152B	Identification and Resolution of Problems		04/09/2007	04/13/2007	Baseline Inspections

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

River Bend
Inspection / Activity Plan
03/01/2006 - 09/30/2007

Unit Number	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site	Planned Dates		Inspection Type
				Start	End	
	EB2-52B - PIR INSPECTION		5			
1	IP 71152B	Identification and Resolution of Problems		04/23/2007	04/27/2007	Baseline Inspections
	EB1-2/17 - 50.59 & PERMANENT PLANT MODS		3			
1	IP 7111102	Evaluation of Changes, Tests, or Experiments		04/16/2007	04/20/2007	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7111117B	Permanent Plant Modifications		04/16/2007	04/20/2007	Baseline Inspections
	EXAM - INITIAL EXAM		4			
1	X02348	RIVER BEND - INITIAL EXAM (06/07)		04/09/2007	04/13/2007	Not Applicable
1	X02348	RIVER BEND - INITIAL EXAM (06/07)		05/07/2007	05/18/2007	Not Applicable
	EP2 - EP PROGRAM		1			
1	IP 7111402	Alert and Notification System Testing		05/14/2007	05/18/2007	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7111403	Emergency Response Organization Augmentation Testing		05/14/2007	05/18/2007	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes		05/14/2007	05/18/2007	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies		05/14/2007	05/18/2007	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		05/14/2007	05/18/2007	Baseline Inspections