



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

March 3, 2004

Rick A. Muench, President and  
Chief Executive Officer  
Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation  
P.O. Box 411  
Burlington, KS 66839

**SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER - WOLF CREEK GENERATING STATION  
(NRC REPORT 05000482/2004001)**

Dear Mr. Muench:

On February 4, 2004, the NRC staff completed its end-of-cycle plant performance assessment of Wolf Creek Generating Station. The end-of-cycle review for Wolf Creek Generating Station involved the participation of all technical divisions in evaluating performance indicators (PIs) for the most recent quarter and inspection results for the period from January 1 through December 31, 2003. 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.

Overall, Wolf Creek Generating Station operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and fully met all cornerstone objectives. Plant performance for the most recent quarter, as well as for the first three quarters of the assessment cycle, 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). However, the significance of an issue related to degraded fire barriers is still under review as part of the Significance Determination Process. Therefore, we plan to conduct only reactor oversight process (ROP) baseline inspections at your facility through September 30, 2005.

As you are aware, the NRC has issued several Orders and threat advisories to enhance security capabilities and improve guard force readiness since the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. We have conducted inspections to review your implementation of these requirements and have monitored your actions in response to changing threat conditions. For calendar year 2004, we plan to continue inspections of Order implementation combined with newly developed portions of the security baseline inspection program. The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections scheduled through September 30, 2005. 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 midcycle 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 this inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact me at 817/860-8141 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

David N. Graves, Chief  
Project Branch B  
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket: 50-482  
License: NPF-42

Enclosure:  
Wolf Creek Inspection/Activity Plan

cc w/enclosure:  
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ADAMS:  Yes  No Initials: \_\_dng\_\_

Publicly Available  Non-Publicly Available  Sensitive  Non-Sensitive

S:\DRP\DRPDIR\EOC for 03\Assessment Letters\WC.wpd

RIV:C:DRP/B	D:DRS	D:DRP	For signature	
DNGraves;df	DDChamberlain	ATHowell	DNGraves	
/RA/	/RA/	/RA/	/RA/	
2/23/04	2/26/04	2/29/04	2/27/04	

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

T=Telephone

E=E-mail

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**Wolf Creek**  
**Inspection / Activity Plan**  
**03/01/2004 - 10/01/2005**

Unit Number	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site	Planned Dates		Inspection Type
				Start	End	
	<b>OB-IN EX</b>	<b>- OB-INITIAL EXAMINATION</b>	<b>7</b>			
1	X02247	WOLF CREEK - INITIAL EXAM (12/03)		04/19/2004	04/23/2004	Not Applicable
1	X02247	WOLF CREEK - INITIAL EXAM (12/03)		05/10/2004	05/14/2004	Not Applicable
	<b>ALARA1</b>	<b>- ALARA PLANNING AND CONTROLS</b>	<b>1</b>			
1	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		03/15/2004	03/19/2004	Baseline Inspections
	<b>ACCESSPI</b>	<b>- ACRSA/PIV</b>	<b>1</b>			
1	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		04/05/2004	04/09/2004	Baseline Inspections
	<b>OB-EP1</b>	<b>- EP PROGRAM INSPECTION</b>	<b>1</b>			
1	IP 7111402	Alert and Notification System Testing		04/19/2004	04/23/2004	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7111403	Emergency Response Organization Augmentation Testing		04/19/2004	04/23/2004	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes		04/19/2004	04/23/2004	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies		04/19/2004	04/23/2004	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		04/19/2004	04/23/2004	Baseline Inspections
	<b>PEB-52</b>	<b>- BIENNIAL PIR</b>	<b>4</b>			
1	IP 71152B	Identification and Resolution of Problems		06/07/2004	06/11/2004	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 71152	Identification and Resolution of Problems		06/21/2004	06/25/2004	Baseline Inspections
	<b>PSB-S1</b>	<b>- AA-AC-FFD-PI</b>	<b>2</b>			
1	IP 7113001	Access Authorization		05/31/2004	06/04/2004	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7113002	Access Control		05/31/2004	06/04/2004	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7113008	Fitness For Duty Program		05/31/2004	06/04/2004	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		05/31/2004	06/04/2004	Baseline Inspections
	<b>RP TEAM</b>	<b>- RAD SAFETY TEAM</b>	<b>4</b>			
1	IP 7112103	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation and Protective Equipment		08/16/2004	08/20/2004	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112201	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment and Monitoring Systems		08/16/2004	08/20/2004	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112202	Radioactive Material Processing and Transportation		08/16/2004	08/20/2004	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112203	Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program		08/16/2004	08/20/2004	Baseline Inspections
	<b>EB21/02</b>	<b>- SSD&amp;PCI/50.59</b>	<b>6</b>			
1	IP 7111102	Evaluation of Changes, Tests, or Experiments		06/27/2005	07/01/2005	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7111121	Safety System Design and Performance Capability		07/11/2005	07/15/2005	Baseline Inspections
	<b>ALARA2</b>	<b>- ALARA PLANNING AND CONTROLS</b>	<b>1</b>			
1	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		06/20/2005	06/24/2005	Baseline Inspections
	<b>PEB-07B</b>	<b>- HX PERFORMANCE</b>	<b>1</b>			
1	IP 7111107B	Heat Sink Performance		09/12/2005	09/16/2005	Baseline Inspections

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



**Wolf Creek**  
**Inspection / Activity Plan**  
**03/01/2004 - 10/01/2005**

Unit Number	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site	Planned Dates		Inspection Type
				Start	End	
	<b>OB-RQ</b>	<b>- REQUAL INSPECTION</b>	<b>2</b>			
1	IP 7111111B	Licensed Operator Requalification Program		09/19/2005	09/23/2005	Baseline Inspections
	<b>EB08P</b>	<b>- ISI</b>	<b>1</b>			
1	IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR		09/26/2005	09/30/2005	Baseline Inspections

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 This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.