

## **NRC NEWS**

## U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Office of Public Affairs Telephone: 301/415-8200 Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

E-mail: <a href="mailto:opa.resource@nrc.gov">opa.resource@nrc.gov</a> Site: <a href="mailto:www.nrc.gov">www.nrc.gov</a> Blog: <a href="mailto:http://public-blog.nrc-gateway.gov">http://public-blog.nrc-gateway.gov</a>

No. 12-085 July 19, 2012

## NRC APPROVES INCREASED POWER OUTPUT FOR GRAND GULF NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT NO. 1

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has approved a request by Entergy Operations Inc. to increase the power generating capacity of Grand Gulf Nuclear Station Unit No. 1 by 15 percent. The power uprate for the boiling-water reactor, located approximately 25 miles south of Vicksburg, Miss., will increase the plant's power generating capacity from approximately 1,300 to 1,500 megawatts electric.

The NRC staff's careful evaluation determined that Entergy could safely increase the reactor's power output primarily by replacing significant portions of several plant systems and components, including the turbine rotors for the reactor feed pumps, power range neutron monitoring system, steam dryer, and the high-pressure turbine. As part of its evaluation, NRC staff reviewed the company's analysis showing the plant's design can accommodate the increased power level.

The NRC's safety evaluation of the proposed power uprate focused on several areas, including the nuclear steam supply systems, instrumentation and control systems, electrical systems, accident evaluations, radiological consequences, fire protection, operations and training, testing, and technical specification changes.

Entergy intends to implement the uprate following the spring 2012 refueling outage.

The NRC previously published a notice about the power uprate application in the *Federal Register*. The agency's evaluation of the Grand Gulf power uprate will be available through the NRC's <u>ADAMS</u> electronic document database using the "Advanced Search" tab, selecting "Accession Number" as the property, and inserting ML121210020 as the value.

## ###

NOTE: Anyone wishing to take photos or use a camera to record any portion of a NRC meeting should contact the Office of Public Affairs beforehand.

News releases are available through a free *Listserv* subscription or by clicking on the EMAIL UPDATES link on the NRC homepage (<a href="www.nrc.gov">www.nrc.gov</a>). E-mail notifications are sent to subscribers when news releases are posted to NRC's website. For the latest news, follow the NRC on <a href="www.twitter.com/NRCgov">www.twitter.com/NRCgov</a>.