



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION IV  
611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400  
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-8064

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September 13, 2000

Randal K. Edington, Vice President - Operations  
River Bend Station  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
P.O. Box 220  
St. Francisville, Louisiana 70775

SUBJECT: RIVER BEND STATION NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-458/00-12

Dear Mr. Edington:

On June 23, 2000, the NRC completed an inspection at your River Bend Station facility. The enclosed report presents the results of that inspection. The results were discussed with you and other members of your staff on June 23, 2000, and on August 17, 2000, during a telephonic exit.

This inspection was an examination of your physical security program utilizing the baseline inspection program. In addition, an Operational Safeguards Response Evaluation (OSRE) was conducted. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of a selected examination of procedures and representative records, observation of exercise activities and weapons training requirements, and interviews with personnel.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter without the Safeguards Information Enclosure, 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 Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/ADAMS/index.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

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Should you have any questions concerning this inspection, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Gail M. Good, Chief  
Plant Support Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

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

Enclosures:  
NRC Inspection Report No.  
50-458/00-12

cc w/enclosures:  
Executive Vice President and  
Chief Operating Officer  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
P.O. Box 31995  
Jackson, Mississippi 39286-1995

Vice President  
Operations Support  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
P.O. Box 31995  
Jackson, Mississippi 39286-1995

General Manager  
Plant Operations  
River Bend Station  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
P.O. Box 220  
St. Francisville, Louisiana 70775

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Director - Nuclear Safety  
River Bend Station  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
P.O. Box 220  
St. Francisville, Louisiana 70775

Wise, Carter, Child & Caraway  
P.O. Box 651  
Jackson, Mississippi 39205

Mark J. Wetterhahn, Esq.  
Winston & Strawn  
1401 L Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20005-3502

Manager - Licensing  
River Bend Station  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
P.O. Box 220  
St. Francisville, Louisiana 70775

The Honorable Richard P. Leyoub  
Attorney General  
Department of Justice  
State of Louisiana  
P.O. Box 94005  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9005

H. Anne Plettinger  
3456 Villa Rose Drive  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806

President  
West Feliciana Parish Police Jury  
P.O. Box 1921  
St. Francisville, Louisiana 70775

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Ronald Wascom, Administrator  
and State Liaison Officer  
Department of Environmental Quality  
P.O. Box 82135  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70884-2135

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**HARDCOPY of entire SAFEGUARDS report:**

Elaine McNeil (NRR\DIPM\IOLB\IRSS)(MS: 6H2)  
RIV Docket File  
Security Inspector (Earnest)

**E-Mail without SAFEGUARDS portion of the report:**

ADAMS Distribution Code (IE-04)  
 DTD David Disc  
 IPAS NRR Event Tracking System  
 EWM Regional Administrator  
 KEB DRP Director  
 ATH DRS Director  
 TWP River Bend Senior Resident Inspector  
 SMS2 River Bend Resident Inspector  
 WDJ DRP\River Bend Branch Chief  
 RAK1 DRP\River Bend Sr. Project Engineer  
 RVA DRP\River Bend Project Engineer  
 PJS River Bend Site Secretary  
 LAY Branch Chief, DRP\TSS  
 GMG Branch Chief, DRS\PSB  
 MEP1 Ellen Poteat, OCFO\DAF\LFARB (MS: TWFN 9E-10)  
 NBH RITS Coordinator  
 PJS RBS Site Secretary

DOCUMENT NAME: R:\\_RBS\RB2000-12RP-ABE NONSAFEGUARDS.WPD

RIV:PSB	NRR/DIPM/IOLB	C:DRS/PSB	C:DRS/B	D:DRS
DWSchaefer	ABEarnest:nh	RJAlbert	GMGood	WDJohnson
<b>/RA/</b>	<b>/RA/</b>	Gail Good = T	<b>/RA/</b>	RKopriva for
08/30/00	08/29 /00	09/13/00	09/13/00	08/30/00

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**ENCLOSURE**

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION IV

Docket No.: 50-458  
License No.: NPF-47  
Report No.: 50-458/00-12  
Licensee: Entergy Operations, Inc.  
Facility: River Bend Station  
Location: 5485 U.S. Highway 61  
St. Francisville, Louisiana  
Dates: June 19-23 and August 17, 2000  
Inspector(s): A. Bruce Earnest, Physical Security Inspector  
  
Ronald Albert, Reactor Safeguards Specialist  
Reactor Safeguards Section, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
  
Contractors (3)  
Approved By: Gail M. Good, Chief, Plant Support Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment 1: Supplemental Information  
Attachment 2: NRC's Revised Reactor Oversight Process

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**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

River Bend Station, Unit 1  
NRC Inspection Report No. 50-458/2000-12

IR 05000458-00-12; on 06/19-06/23/2000; Entergy Operations, Inc.; River Bend Station; Physical security program and Operational Safeguards Response Evaluation (OSRE). No findings identified.

The inspection was conducted by a regional physical security inspector, a representative from the Reactor Safeguards Section, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, and three contractors. No findings were identified.

**ATTACHMENT 1**

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

Licensee

J. McGaha, President, EOI  
R. Edington, Vice President-Operations  
D. Mims, General Manager, Plant Operations  
W. Brian, Director, Engineering  
C. Kelly, Director, Security - EOI  
R. King, Director, Nuclear Safety Assurance  
C. Parker, Superintendent, Plant Security

NRC

R. Carr, Materials Inspector, Region IV  
R. Albert, Reactor Safeguards Specialist, Reactor Safeguards Section, NRR  
R. Azua, Acting Senior Resident

**ITEMS OPENED, CLOSED, AND DISCUSSED**

Items Opened

50-458/0012-01	URI	Failure to prevent a simulated adversary from gaining access to a vital area (Section 40A5)
50-458/0012-02	URI	Failure to prevent a simulated adversary from gaining access to a vital area (Section 40A5)

Items Closed

None

Items Discussed

None



LIST OF DOCUMENTS REVIEWED

Safeguards Contingency Plan, Revision 8

Ten Security Drill Reports, dated May and June 2000

Plant Condition Reports CR-RBS-2000-1302 and CR-RBS-2000-1285

Safeguards Event Logs from June 1999 to June 2000

Licensee critique and time line Drill (force-on-force exercise) no. three, undated

**ATTACHMENT 2**

**NRC's REVISED REACTOR OVERSIGHT PROCESS**

The federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) recently revamped its inspection, assessment, and enforcement programs for commercial nuclear power plants. The new process takes into account improvements in the performance of the nuclear industry over the past 25 years and improved approaches of inspecting and assessing safety performance at NRC licensed plants.

The new process monitors licensee performance in three broad areas (called strategic performance areas): reactor safety (avoiding accidents and reducing the consequences of accidents if they occur), radiation safety (protecting plant employees and the public during routine operations), and safeguards (protecting the plant against sabotage or other security threats). The process focuses on licensee performance within each of seven cornerstones of safety in the three areas:

**Reactor Safety**

- Initiating Events
- Mitigating Systems
- Barrier Integrity
- Emergency Preparedness

**Radiation Safety**

- Occupational
- Public

**Safeguards**

- Physical Protection

To monitor these seven cornerstones of safety, the NRC uses two processes that generate information about the safety significance of plant operations: inspections and performance indicators. Inspection findings will be evaluated according to their potential significance for safety, using the significance determination process, and assigned colors of GREEN, WHITE, YELLOW or RED. GREEN findings are indicative of issues that, while they may not be desirable, represent very low safety significance. WHITE findings indicate issues that are of low to moderate safety significance. YELLOW findings are issues that are of substantial safety significance. RED findings represent issues that are of high safety significance with a significant reduction in safety margin.

Performance indicator data will be compared to established criteria for measuring licensee performance in terms of potential safety. Based on prescribed thresholds, the indicators will be classified by color representing varying levels of performance and incremental degradation in safety: GREEN, WHITE, YELLOW, or RED. GREEN indicators represent performance at a level requiring no additional NRC oversight beyond the baseline inspections. WHITE corresponds to performance that may result in increased NRC oversight. YELLOW represents performance that minimally reduces safety margin and requires even more NRC oversight. And

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RED indicates performance that represents a significant reduction in safety margin but still provides adequate protection to public health and safety.

The assessment process integrates performance indicators and inspection so the agency can reach objective conclusions regarding overall plant performance. The agency will use an Action Matrix to determine in a systematic, predictable manner which regulatory actions should be taken based on a licensee's performance. The NRC's actions in response to the significance (as represented by the color) of issues will be the same for performance indicators as for inspection findings. As a licensee's safety performance degrades, the NRC will take more and increasingly significant action, which can include shutting down a plant, as described in the Action Matrix.

More information can be found at: <http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/index.html>.

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