



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION II
SAM NUNN ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
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March 2, 2006

Carolina Power & Light Company
ATTN: Mr. James Scarola
Vice President
Brunswick Steam Electric Plant
P. O. Box 10429
Southport, NC 28461

SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER - BRUNSWICK STEAM ELECTRIC PLANT
(NRC INSPECTION REPORT 05000325/2006001 AND 05000324/2006001)

Dear Mr. Scarola:

On February 8, 2006, the NRC staff completed its performance review of the Brunswick Steam Electric Plant. Our technical staff reviewed performance indicators (PIs) for the most recent quarter and inspection results for the period from January 1 through December 31, 2005 (CY 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, Brunswick Units 1 and 2 operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and fully met all cornerstone objectives. Brunswick Unit 1 performance for the most recent quarter, and Units 1 and 2, for the first three quarters of the assessment cycle, were within the Licensee Response column of the NRC's Action Matrix. We based this conclusion on the fact that all inspection findings were classified as having very low safety significance (Green) and all PIs indicated performance at a level requiring no additional NRC oversight (Green). However, Brunswick Unit 2 performance for the most recent quarter was within the Regulatory Response column of the NRC's Action Matrix. We based this conclusion on the fact that the Unit crossed the threshold from Green to White for the Unplanned Scrams per 7000 Critical Hours PI during the fourth quarter of CY 2005.

On February 17, 2006, we were notified by your staff of the readiness for the NRC to conduct a supplemental inspection to review the actions taken to address the Unit 2 White PI. Therefore, in addition to the reactor oversight process baseline inspections, we plan to conduct a supplemental inspection of Unit 2 activities, using Inspection Procedure 95001, "Inspection for One or Two White Inputs in a Strategic Performance Area", during the week of June 5, 2006.

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections, less 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 nine months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the mid-cycle review. Although our intent is to maintain the enclosed inspection plan fixed for the first nine months, a need may arise to conduct one or more unanticipated inspections prior to issuing an updated inspection plan with the CY 2006 mid-cycle assessment letter. If an inspection of this type becomes necessary, we will notify you of the planned inspection dates as soon as possible to resolve as much as we can, any scheduling and personnel availability conflicts you may have.

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 Paul E. Fredrickson at 404-562-4530 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Charles A. Casto, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos.: 50-325, 50-324
License Nos: DPR-71, DPR-62

Enclosure: Brunswick Inspection/Activity Plan

cc w/encl: (See page 3)

cc w/encl:

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