



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

REGION IV
1600 E LAMAR BLVD
ARLINGTON, TX 76011-4511

September 2, 2014

Mr. Kevin Mulligan
Site Vice President Operations
Entergy Operations, Inc.
Grand Gulf Nuclear Station
P.O. Box 756
Port Gibson, MS 39150

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR GRAND GULF NUCLEAR STATION
(REPORT 05000416/2014006)

Dear Mr. Mulligan:

On August 14, 2014, the NRC completed its mid-cycle performance review of the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station. The NRC reviewed the most recent quarterly performance indicators (PIs) in addition to inspection results and enforcement actions from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station during this period and its plans for future inspections at your facility.

The NRC determined that overall, the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety, and met all cornerstone objectives. The NRC determined the performance at the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station during the most recent quarter was within the Regulatory Response Column of the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Action Matrix due to the licensee's safety-significant PI for Unplanned Scrams per 7000 Critical Hours, which crossed the Green-White threshold during the first Quarter 2013. The NRC completed the supplemental inspection, in accordance with Inspection Procedure 95001, "Supplemental Inspection for One or Two White Inputs in a Strategic Performance Area," on June 20, 2014, to address the White PI. As a result of this inspection, the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station transitioned back to the Licensee Response Column effective at the end of the second Quarter 2014. Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct ROP baseline inspections at your facility.

In the 2013 Annual Assessment Letter, dated March 4, 2014 (ML14063A338), your staff was informed that the NRC planned to conduct Inspection Procedure 92723, "Follow-up Inspection for Three or More Severity Level IV Traditional Enforcement Violations in the Same Area in a 12-Month Period," to follow-up on four traditional enforcement violations that had been identified during the last assessment period. This inspection is scheduled to be performed during the third Quarter 2014.

As a result of the Safety Culture Common Language Initiative, the terminology and coding of cross-cutting aspects were revised. All cross-cutting aspects identified during inspections conducted in calendar year 2014 reflect this revision to Inspection Manual Chapter (IMC) 0310. Cross-cutting aspects identified in 2013 using the 2013 terminology were converted to the latest revision in accordance with the cross-reference in IMC 0310 during the mid-cycle assessment review and evaluated for cross-cutting themes and potential substantive cross-cutting issues in accordance with IMC 0305.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through December 31, 2015. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. The inspections listed during the last nine months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the end-of-cycle performance review. The NRC provides the inspection plan to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues. The NRC will contact you as soon as possible to discuss changes to the inspection plan should circumstances warrant any changes. This inspection plan does not include security related inspections, which will be sent via separate, non-publicly available correspondence.

In response to the accident at Fukushima, the Commission issued Order EA-12-049, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Requirements for Mitigation Strategies for Beyond-Design-Basis External Events," which requires licensees to develop, implement, and maintain guidance and strategies to maintain or restore core cooling, containment, and spent fuel pool cooling capabilities following a beyond-design-basis external event. Additionally, the Commission issued Order EA-12-051, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Reliable Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation," which requires licensees to have a reliable means of remotely monitoring wide-range Spent Fuel Pool levels to support effective prioritization of event mitigation and recovery actions in the event of a beyond-design-basis external event. The NRC is conducting audits of licensee efforts towards compliance with these Orders. This audit includes an onsite component in order for the NRC to evaluate licensee plans for complying with the Orders, as described in site-specific submittals, and to receive and review information relative to associated open items. This onsite activity will occur in the months prior to a declaration of compliance for each site, and will aid staff in development of an ultimate Safety Evaluation for the site. The date for the onsite component at your site is being coordinated with your staff. A site-specific audit plan for the visit will be provided in advance to allow sufficient time for preparations.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter 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/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Please contact Don Allen, Chief, Project Branch C at (817) 200-1144 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Troy Pruett, Acting Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No.: 50-416
License No.: NPF-29

Enclosure: Grand Gulf Nuclear Station
Inspection/Activity Plan

Please contact Don Allen, Chief, Project Branch C at (817) 200-1144 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

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Letter to Kevin Mulligan from Troy Pruett dated September 2, 2014

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR GRAND GULF NUCLEAR STATION
(REPORT 05000416/2014006)

DISTRIBUTION:

Regional Administrator (Marc.Dapas@nrc.gov)
Deputy Regional Administrator (Kriss.Kennedy@nrc.gov)
Acting DRP Director (Troy.Pruett@nrc.gov)
Acting DRP Deputy Director (Michael.Hay@nrc.gov)
DRS Director (Anton.Vegel@nrc.gov)
DRS Deputy Director (Jeff.Clark@nrc.gov)
Senior Resident Inspector (Blake.Rice@nrc.gov)
Administrative Assistant (Alley.Farrell@nrc.gov)
Branch Chief (Don.Allen@nrc.gov)
Senior Project Engineer (Ray.Azua@nrc.gov)
Project Engineer (Paul.Nizov@nrc.gov)
Project Engineer (Michael.Langelier@nrc.gov)
Public Affairs Officer (Victor.Dricks@nrc.gov)
Public Affairs Officer (Lara.Uselding@nrc.gov)
RIV State Liaison Officer (Bill.Maier@nrc.gov)
Project Manager (Alan.Wang@nrc.gov)
Branch Chief, DRS/TSB (Geoffrey.Miller@nrc.gov)
R4DRPBC@nrc.gov
R4DRSBC@nrc.gov
Director, DIRS, NRR (Scott.Morris@nrc.gov)
Deputy Director, DIRS, NRR (Allen.Howe@nrc.gov)
Acting Director, DORL, NRR (Louise.Lund@nrc.gov)
Acting Deputy Director, DORL (Michael.Markley@nrc.gov)
Director, NSIR/DPR (Rob.Lewis@nrc.gov)
Chief, PLB IV, DORL, NRR (Eric.Oesterle@nrc.gov)
Regional Counsel (Karla.Fuller@nrc.gov)
RITS Coordinator (Marisa.Herrera@nrc.gov)
Technical Support Assistant (Loretta.Williams@nrc.gov)
Congressional Affairs Officer (Jenny.Weil@nrc.gov)
RIV/ETA: OEDO (Anthony.Bowers@nrc.gov)
ROPassessment Resource@nrc.gov
ROPreports@nrc.gov
OEMail Resource@nrc.gov

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Grand Gulf
Inspection / Activity Plan
09/01/2014 - 12/31/2015

Unit Number	Planned Dates Start End	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
		EXAM - INITIAL OPERATOR EXAM		5
1	09/22/2014 09/26/2014	X02530	INITIAL EXAM- GRAND GULF (12/31/14)	
1	10/20/2014 10/30/2014	X02530	INITIAL EXAM- GRAND GULF (12/31/14)	
		EXAM - INITIAL OPERATOR EXAM		5
1	10/05/2015 10/09/2015	X02548	INITIAL EXAM GG(11/2015)	
1	11/09/2015 11/18/2015	X02548	INITIAL EXAM GG(11/2015)	
		EP-1 - EP PERFORMANCE INDICATORS		1
1	10/20/2014 10/24/2014	IP 71151-EP01		
1	10/20/2014 10/24/2014	IP 71151-EP02		
1	10/20/2014 10/24/2014	IP 71151-EP03		
		EP-2 - BIENNIAL EP PROGRAM INSPECTION		1
1	10/20/2014 10/24/2014	IP 7111402	Alert and Notification System Testing	
1	10/20/2014 10/24/2014	IP 7111403	Emergency Preparedness Organization Staffing and Augmentation System	
1	10/20/2014 10/24/2014	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes	
1	10/20/2014 10/24/2014	IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies	
		RS 24 - RADIATION SAFETY		2
1	11/17/2014 11/21/2014	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	11/17/2014 11/21/2014	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
		RS 5678 - RADIATION SAFETY - TEAM		4
1	03/23/2015 03/27/2015	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
1	03/23/2015 03/27/2015	IP 71124.06	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment	
1	03/23/2015 03/27/2015	IP 71124.07	Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program	
1	03/23/2015 03/27/2015	IP 71124.08	Radioactive Solid Waste Processing and Radioactive Material Handling, Storage, and Transportation	
		EB1-21T - GG COMPONENT DESIGN BASIS INSPECTION		7
1	07/27/2015 08/28/2015	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
		INSP - OPERATOR REQUAL INSPECTION		3
1	08/10/2015 08/14/2015	IP 7111111B	Licensed Operator Requalification Program	
		EP-2 - HAB EXERCISE INSPECTION		5
1	09/14/2015 09/18/2015	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes	
1	09/14/2015 09/18/2015	IP 7111407	Exercise Evaluation - Hostile Action (HA) Event	
		EP-3 - EP PERFORMANCE INDICATORS		2
1	09/14/2015 09/18/2015	IP 71151-EP01		
1	09/14/2015 09/18/2015	IP 71151-EP02		
1	09/14/2015 09/18/2015	IP 71151-EP03		

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

Grand Gulf
Inspection / Activity Plan
09/01/2014 - 12/31/2015

Unit Number	Planned Dates		Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
	Start	End			
RS 12 PI - RADIATION SAFETY					2
1	11/16/2015	11/20/2015	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1	11/16/2015	11/20/2015	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	11/16/2015	11/20/2015	IP 71151-OR01		
1	11/16/2015	11/20/2015	IP 71151-PR01		