



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
REGION II
245 PEACHTREE CENTER AVENUE NE, SUITE 1200
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-1257

September 1, 2015

Ms. Cheryl A. Gayheart
Vice President
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant
P.O. Drawer 470, BIN B500
Ashford, AL 36312

**SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR JOSEPH M. FARLEY NUCLEAR
PLANT UNIT 1 AND UNIT 2 (NRC INSPECTION REPORT 05000348/2015005
AND 05000364/2015005)**

Dear Ms. Gayheart:

On August 11, 2015, the NRC completed its mid-cycle performance review of Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant, Unit 1 and Unit 2. The NRC reviewed the most recent quarterly performance indicators (PIs) in addition to inspection results and enforcement actions from July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2015. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of your facility during this period and its plans for future inspections at your facility.

The NRC determined that overall, Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant, Unit 1 and Unit 2 operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and met all cornerstone objectives. The NRC determined the performance at Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant, Unit 1 and Unit 2 during the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Action Matrix because all inspection findings had very low (i.e., Green) safety significance, and all PIs indicated that your performance was within the nominal, expected range (i.e., Green). Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct ROP baseline inspections at your facility.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through June 30, 2017. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. In addition to baseline inspections, the NRC plans to conduct reactor operator licensing examinations and post-approval license renewal inspections. The inspections listed during the second half 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 NRC is conducting audits of licensee efforts towards compliance with Commission issued Orders EA-12-049, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Requirements for Mitigation Strategies for Beyond-Design-Basis External Events," and EA-12-051, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Reliable Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation." As stated in our End-of-Cycle Performance Assessment letter on March 4, 2015, this audit includes an onsite component in order for the NRC to evaluate licensee plans for complying with these Orders and to receive and review information associated with open items. 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 Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 2.390 of the NRC's "Agency Rules of Practice and Procedure," 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 me at 404-997-4513 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Shane Sandal, Chief
Reactor Projects Branch 2
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos.: 50-348, 50-364
License Nos.: NPF-2, NPF-8

Enclosure: Farley Inspection/Activity Plan
(09/01/2015 – 06/30/2017)

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☐ NON-PUBLICLY AVAILABLE

☐ SENSITIVE

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ADAMS: ☐ Yes

ACCESSION NUMBER: _____

☐ SUNSI REVIEW COMPLETE ☐ FORM 665 ATTACHED

OFFICE	RII:DRP	RII:DRP	RII:DRP				
SIGNATURE	ELP1	CWR1	SRS5				
NAME	E. Powell	C. Rapp	S. Sandal				
DATE	8/17/2015	8/18/2015	8/21/2015	9/ /2015	9/ /2015	9/ /2015	9/ /2015
E-MAIL COPY?	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY DOCUMENT NAME: HTTP://FUSION.NRC.GOV/REGIONS/RII/DRP/PB2/FARLEY REPORTS AND INPUTS/FARLEY MID-CYCLE LETTER 2015.DOCX

Letter to Cheryl Gayheart from Shane Sandal dated September 1, 2015

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR JOSEPH M. FARLEY NUCLEAR
PLANT UNIT 1 AND UNIT 2 (NRC INSPECTION REPORT 05000348/2015005
AND 05000364/2015005)

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Farley
Inspection / Activity Plan
09/01/2015 - 06/30/2017

Unit Number	Planned Dates		Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
Start	End				
			OL EXAM - INITIAL LICENSE EXAM PREP		3
1	09/14/2015	09/18/2015	V23460	FARLEY/OCTOBER 2015 INITIAL EXAM AT POWER FACILITIES	
			OL EXAM - INITIAL LICENSE EXAM		3
1	10/05/2015	10/16/2015	V23460	FARLEY/OCTOBER 2015 INITIAL EXAM AT POWER FACILITIES	
			PI&R - PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION AND RESOLUTION		4
1, 2	11/02/2015	11/06/2015	IP 71152B	Problem Identification and Resolution	
1, 2	11/16/2015	11/20/2015	IP 71152B	Problem Identification and Resolution	
			MODS - PLANT MODIFICATIONS INSPECTION		3
1, 2	01/11/2016	01/15/2016	IP 7111117T	Evaluations of Changes, Tests, and Experiments and Permanent Plant Modifications	
1, 2	02/01/2016	02/05/2016	IP 7111117T	Evaluations of Changes, Tests, and Experiments and Permanent Plant Modifications	
			EP - EP EXERCISE INSPECTION		2
1, 2	03/07/2016	03/11/2016	IP 7111401	Exercise Evaluation	
1, 2	03/07/2016	03/11/2016	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes	
1, 2	03/07/2016	03/11/2016	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
			ISI - UNIT 2 IN-SERVICE INSPECTION		1
2	04/18/2016	04/22/2016	IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR	
			OL RQ - REQUAL INSP		2
1, 2	08/22/2016	08/26/2016	IP 7111111B	Licensed Operator Requalification Program	
			RP - RP OCCUPATIONAL INSPECTION WEEK 1		2
1, 2	10/03/2016	10/07/2016	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1, 2	10/03/2016	10/07/2016	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1, 2	10/03/2016	10/07/2016	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1, 2	10/03/2016	10/07/2016	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1, 2	10/03/2016	10/07/2016	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
1, 2	10/03/2016	10/07/2016	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
			ISI - UNIT 1 IN-SERVICE INSPECTION		1
1	10/10/2016	10/14/2016	IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR	
			LR - UNIT 1 POST APPROVAL LR PHASE 1		2
1	10/10/2016	10/14/2016	IP 71003	Post-Approval Site Inspection for License Renewal	
			RP - RP OCCUPATIONAL INSPECTION WEEK 2		3
1, 2	10/17/2016	10/21/2016	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1, 2	10/17/2016	10/21/2016	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1, 2	10/17/2016	10/21/2016	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	

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

Enclosure

Farley
Inspection / Activity Plan
09/01/2015 - 06/30/2017

Unit Number	Planned Dates		Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
	Start	End			
RP - RP OCCUPATIONAL INSPECTION WEEK 2					3
1, 2	10/17/2016	10/21/2016	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1, 2	10/17/2016	10/21/2016	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
1, 2	10/17/2016	10/21/2016	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
LR - POST APPROVAL LR PHASE 2					6
1, 2	01/23/2017	01/27/2017	IP 71003	Post-Approval Site Inspection for License Renewal	
1, 2	02/06/2017	02/10/2017	IP 71003	Post-Approval Site Inspection for License Renewal	
EP - EP PROGRAM INSPECTION					4
1, 2	04/10/2017	04/14/2017	IP 7111402	Alert and Notification System Testing	
1, 2	04/10/2017	04/14/2017	IP 7111403	Emergency Preparedness Organization Staffing and Augmentation System	
1, 2	04/10/2017	04/14/2017	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes	
1, 2	04/10/2017	04/14/2017	IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies	
1, 2	04/10/2017	04/14/2017	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
CDBI - COMPONENT DESIGN BASIS INSPECTION					7
1, 2	04/10/2017	04/14/2017	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
1, 2	05/01/2017	05/05/2017	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
1, 2	05/15/2017	05/19/2017	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
1, 2	06/05/2017	06/09/2017	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	