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NRC Issues Confirmatory Action Letter for Arkansas Nuclear One

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued a [Confirmatory Action Letter](#) documenting actions that Entergy Operations, Inc., officials have agreed to take to address performance issues at Arkansas Nuclear One. The plant is located in Russellville, Ark.

“The NRC has determined that when effectively implemented and independently validated by the NRC through inspection follow-up activities, the actions in the Confirmatory Action Letter are adequate to correct the significant performance deficiencies at Arkansas Nuclear One,” NRC Region IV Administrator Marc Dapas said.

On March 4, 2015, the NRC moved ANO into Column 4 of the agency’s [Action Matrix](#) (where operating plants with significant performance issues receive the second highest level of NRC oversight) following inspection findings of substantial safety significance stemming from a [heavy equipment incident](#) as well as [degraded flood protection](#) at the site.

Some of the Entergy commitments outlined in [The Confirmatory Action Letter](#) include:

- Actions to address the root and contributing causes for the findings involving the heavy equipment incident and degraded flood protection, including plant deficiencies, vendor oversight, change management, conservative decision making, and risk management.
- Identification, assessment, and correction of performance deficiencies to include improvement in the implementation and oversight of the corrective action program, self-assessment and performance monitoring, the quality of problem evaluations, and the use of operating experience.
- Improvements in human performance to include leadership behaviors and organizational capacity, as well as procedure quality, standards, and accountability.
- Improvements in equipment reliability and engineering programs to ensure that key plant equipment remains available, reliable, and capable of meeting the plant design and licensing bases, including resolving specific equipment conditions.
- Actions to improve nuclear safety culture values and behaviors to include commitment by leaders and individuals to emphasize safety over competing goals.

NRC plans to conduct follow-up inspections approximately quarterly to review Entergy’s progress toward completing the committed actions. Issuance of the Confirmatory Action Letter does

not preclude the NRC from taking additional steps, including enforcement actions, for any violations of agency requirements that are identified in subsequent inspections.