



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
REGION IV  
1600 EAST LAMAR BOULEVARD  
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4511

November 5, 2018

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

**SUBJECT: ASSESSMENT FOLLOW-UP LETTER FOR GRAND GULF NUCLEAR  
STATION**

Dear Mr. Larson:

As a result of our quarterly review of plant performance, which was completed on November 5, 2018, the NRC updated its assessment of Grand Gulf Nuclear Station. The NRC's evaluation consisted of a review of performance indicators and inspection results. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment and our plans for a future inspection at your facility. This letter supplements, but does not supersede, the annual assessment letter issued on March 1, 2018.

The NRC's review of Grand Gulf Nuclear Station identified that the Unplanned Power Changes Per 7,000 Critical Hours performance indicator has crossed the Green-to-White threshold. The performance issues included in this performance indicator were associated with five unplanned downpower events that occurred from the fourth quarter of 2017 through the third quarter of 2018. These events included a degrading reactor recirculation pump seal, a loss of an electrical power transformer and subsequent reactor recirculation system vibrations, a steam leak in the condenser bay, an inadvertent downshift of reactor recirculation pumps from fast to slow speed, and an inadvertent isolation of a feedwater heater.

The NRC determined the performance at Grand Gulf Nuclear Station to be in the Regulatory Response Column (Column 2) of the Reactor Oversight Process Action Matrix beginning the third quarter of 2018. Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct a supplemental inspection in accordance with Inspection Procedure 95001, "Supplemental Inspection Response to Action Matrix Column 2 Inputs." The objectives of the supplemental inspection are: (1) to assure that the root causes and contributing causes of significant performance issues are understood, (2) to independently assess and assure that the extent of condition and extent of cause of significant performance issues are identified, (3) to assure that corrective actions taken to address and preclude repetition of significant performance issues are prompt and effective, and (4) to assure that corrective plans direct prompt actions to effectively address and preclude repetition of significant performance issues. This inspection will be scheduled after you notify the NRC of your readiness.

In accordance with Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (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 Agencywide Documents Access and Management 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 Jason Kozal at 817-200-1144 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Anton Vogel, Director  
Division of Reactor Projects

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

ASSESSMENT FOLLOW-UP LETTER FOR GRAND GULF NUCLEAR STATION –  
November 5, 2018

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