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U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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Subject: Arkansas Nuclear One - Units 1 and 2
Docket Nos. 50-313 and 50-368
License Nos. DPR-51 and NPF-6
Response To The Systematic Assessment Of Licensee Performance Report
(Inspector Report 50-313/96-99; 50-368/96-99)

Gentlemen:

The purpose of this letter is to respond to your August 2, 1996, letter transmitting the Systematic Assessment of Licensee Performance (SALP) report for Entergy Operations, Inc., Arkansas Nuclear One (ANO) for the period January 8, 1995, through July 6, 1996. On August 29, 1996, during a public meeting, you formally presented our SALP results along with additional explanation of our performance during the subject period. During the meeting, we provided verbal comments to the SALP report. This letter constitutes ANO's written comments on the subject report.

The SALP process provides meaningful feedback to ANO management and staff regarding our performance in each functional area. We believe this report properly recognized the substantial progress ANO has made in self-assessments and other areas to improve overall performance and plant safety while also identifying areas where improvements can be made. In the functional area of Maintenance, we believe that our maintenance staff has provided excellent support and significantly contributed to ANO's continued performance improvement. We will continue to identify performance improvements in this area as we strive to achieve top industry performance at ANO.

We believe that our employees and management staff are the primary contributors to our continued success and achievement. Teamwork, improved interdepartmental communications, ownership and the endeavor for common ANO goals have contributed significantly to this success. ANO will continue to seek improvement in all areas of its operation. The previous SALP period was successful for ANO in almost all areas of plant

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performance. It is our goal to continue to improve plant performance while enhancing the skills of our staff to better meet the future safety, performance and economic challenges for ANO and Entergy.

Performance in the Operations area continues to be a strength. Teamwork, formal communications, an ingrained safety culture, a self-critical attitude and a strong commitment to operator knowledge are identified strengths. We recognize the concern identified regarding weaknesses in operations procedures supporting nonroutine maintenance activities. Initiatives in this area include the reinforcement of management expectations with regard to procedure adherence, application of lessons learned and procedure enhancements.

In the functional area of Maintenance, continued improvements have been made. Excellent teamwork and leadership, process improvements, Operations/Maintenance interface and a management commitment to training are identified strengths. Conversely, we recognize the concerns identified regarding the performance exceptions which posed the potential for common mode failures. Initiatives in this area include establishment of a maintenance human performance task force, reinforcement of management expectations for procedure adherence and validation, procedure improvements, and increased supervisory monitoring. It is important to note that the ANO corrective action program has addressed each identified weakness. Our corrective actions have been, and will continue to be, thorough, aggressive, and focused on continuous improvement. Our safety culture, management involvement and the ongoing initiatives in human performance improvements are the keys to continued overall improvement in the maintenance area.

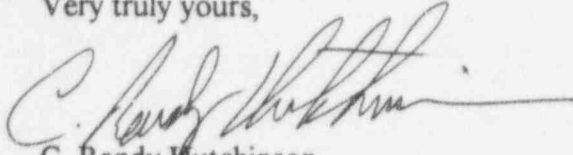
In the functional area of Engineering, significant progress has been made. Engineering is a full partner with Operations and Maintenance in achieving safe and effective plant performance. Strong leadership and support by senior management, expanded use of self-assessments, enhanced teamwork and communication, engineering process changes, peer group and industry involvement, a self-critical culture and commitment to personnel development have led to the most significant area of improvement at ANO. We will continue use of these tools to improve performance in Engineering.

In the functional area of Plant Support, improvement has been observed site wide. Excellent site wide teamwork in dose reduction, resource sharing and outage support, a self-critical attitude, process changes, and solid radwaste reduction contributed to radiological protection program accomplishments. Radiation worker practices are an ongoing challenge and initiatives such as human performance improvements, contaminated area reduction, and radiological posting improvements are continuing.

Aggressive self-assessments will continue to be an effective performance tool in assessing where overall improvements can be made. Our condition reporting system has also proven to be effective in identifying declining trends and potential areas for self-assessment. ANO will continue to monitor the industry for emerging issues and will be self-critical in the application of lessons learned. Significant process improvements have been achieved and ANO will

continue to improve our overall performance to place ANO as a world class performer in the nuclear industry.

Very truly yours,



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CRH/RMC

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