



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
REGION II
245 PEACHTREE CENTER AVENUE N.E., SUITE 1200
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-1200

March 3, 2022

Mr. Brian Hunt
Plant Manager
Honeywell Metropolis Works
P.O. Box 430
Metropolis, IL 62960

SUBJECT: HONEYWELL METROPOLIS WORKS, LICENSEE PERFORMANCE REVIEW
(NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION INSPECTION REPORT
40-3392/2022-005)

Dear Mr. Hunt:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Region II and Headquarters staff completed a review of the Honeywell Metropolis Works (Honeywell) inspection results and performance in conducting NRC licensed activities. The review covered the period beginning January 1, 2020 and ending December 31, 2021. Honeywell's performance was evaluated in the following areas: Safety Operations, Safeguards, Radiological Controls, Facility Support, Safeguards, and Other Topics. This letter and enclosure provide the results of our review and constitutes inspection report (IR) 40-3392/2022-005. This report will be used as a basis for establishing the NRC oversight program for your facility.

The review showed that Honeywell continued to conduct its activities safely and securely, while protecting public health, and the environment. Based on our current review of activities in the areas mentioned above covering the period from January 1, 2020, through December 31, 2021, no areas needing improvement (ANI) were identified. While there were no violations identified at your facility during this review, there is an enclosure to this letter regarding the future inspection effort since your facility is preparing to restart in calendar year 2023. Since there were no ANIs identified in Safeguards, no separate letter will be issued.

In 2018, the NRC adjusted the core inspection program commensurate with the facility being in an "ready-idle" status. The adjusted inspection program was effective during the 24-month performance assessment period, from January 1, 2018, through December 31, 2019. This adjustment was detailed in NRC IR 2018-001 (ADAMS Accession Number ML18064A065). In March 2020, the NRC further reduced the core inspection program effort as documented in NRC IR 2020-005 (ADAMS Accession Number ML20062K159).

On February 21, 2021, Honeywell informed the NRC of their intent to resume full operations at the Metropolis facility with an anticipated return to production in 2023 (ML21064A150). Although some restart activities occurred in 2021, the majority of restart activities will occur late 2022 and into 2023.

As a result of Honeywell's performance during the assessment period, and the intent to resume full operations at the Metropolis facility, the NRC plans to return to the normal core inspection program as described in NRC Inspection Manual Chapter (IMC) 2600, "Fuel Cycle Facility Operational Safety and Safeguards Inspection Program," for calendar years 2022 and 2023. In addition, supplemental inspections have been scheduled in 2022 (ML21182A164) to further review planned startup activities.

The results of our review will be discussed with you at a public meeting on April 13, 2022, via Webinar. Although your site had no ANIs for this current review cycle, you will still be granted the opportunity to discuss your facility's performance, in the same areas as those evaluated by the NRC, if you so choose.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, and its Enclosure, will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the NRC's document system (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html#web-based-adams>.

Please refer questions and comments regarding your performance review to Mr. Eric Michel, Chief, Projects Branch 2, by telephone at 404-997-4555.

Sincerely,

Anthony D. Masters, Director
Division of Fuel Facility Inspection

Docket No. 40-3392
License No. SUB-526

Enclosure:
Licensee Performance Review

cc: Distribution via ListServ

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(NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION INSPECTION REPORT
(40-3392/2022-005) - Dated March 3, 2022

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LICENSEE PERFORMANCE REVIEW FOR
HONEYWELL METROPOLIS WORKS
ASSESSMENT PERIOD: January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2021

The following is a summary of notable performance issues at the Honeywell Metropolis Works (Honeywell) in the conduct of NRC licensed activities.

PERFORMANCE AREA: SAFETY OPERATIONS

This area is comprised of plant operations, nuclear criticality safety, and fire protection.

Plant Status

- Facility was in an idle-ready status during the entire LPR cycle

Notable Inspection Findings

- None

Performance Analysis for Area Needing Improvement (ANI)

- None

Inspection Effort Recommendation

- Return the facility to the nominal core inspection program due to increased activities associated with restart preparations.

PERFORMANCE AREA: RADIOLOGICAL CONTROLS

This area is comprised of radiation protection, environmental protection, waste management, and transportation.

Plant status

- None

Notable Inspection Findings

- None

Performance Analysis for ANI

- No ANI was identified in Radiological Controls

Inspection Effort Recommendation

- Return the facility to the nominal core inspection program due to increased activities associated with restart preparations.

Enclosure

PERFORMANCE AREA: FACILITY SUPPORT

This area is comprised of maintenance and surveillance of safety controls, emergency preparedness, emergency exercise, and plant modifications.

Plant status

- The planned emergency preparedness exercise in 2021 was deferred to May 2022.

Notable Inspection Findings

- None

Performance Analysis for ANI

- No ANI was identified in Facility Support

Inspection Effort Recommendation

- Return the facility to the nominal core inspection program due to increased activities associated with restart preparations.

PERFORMANCE AREA: OTHER AREAS

This area is comprised of special issues.

Plant Status

- None

Notable Inspection Findings

- None

Performance Analysis for ANI

- No ANI was identified in Other Areas

Inspection Effort Recommendation

- Return the facility to the nominal core inspection program due to increased activities associated with restart preparations.

PERFORMANCE AREA: SAFEGUARDS

This area is comprised of Material Control & Accounting, Physical Protection of SNM, and Classified Material and Information Security.

Plant Status

- None

Notable Inspection Findings

- None

Performance Analysis for ANI

- No ANI was identified in Safeguards

Inspection Effort Recommendation

Return the facility to the nominal core inspection program due to increased activities associated with restart preparations.