



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION IV  
611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400  
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-8064

JAN - 7 2000

EA 99-305

William A. Eaton, Vice President  
Operations - Grand Gulf Nuclear Station  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
P.O. Box 756  
Port Gibson, Mississippi 39150

SUBJECT: NRC SPECIAL INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-416/99-19

Dear Mr. Eaton:

This refers to the inspection conducted on November 29 through December 9, 1999, at the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station facility. The purpose of the inspection was to follow up on the September 9, 1999, failure of high pressure core spray diesel generator Bearing B. You described this event in Licensee Event Report 1999-004 dated October 12, 1999. The enclosed report presents the results of this inspection.

Based on the results of this inspection, four apparent violations were identified and are being considered for escalated enforcement action in accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedure for NRC Enforcement Actions" (Enforcement Policy), NUREG-1600. The first apparent violation involved exceeding the Technical Specification 3.8.1 limiting condition for operation regarding the emergency diesel generators. The second apparent violation involved the failure to include the diesel generator bearings as a potential cause for the "Generator RTD TEMP HI" alarm in the applicable alarm response instruction. The third apparent violation involved the failure of the maintenance planner to adequately plan a work package to add the required amount of oil and to comply with the procedural requirement to address the scope of the work and effects on the design basis in the work package impact statement. The fourth apparent violation involved two examples of failures to initiate condition reports when nonconformances were discovered. The two examples included the differences in bearing oil level between the controlled drawing and the Division III generator bearing nameplate and the potential for bearing damage due to oil frothing. The circumstances surrounding these apparent violations, the significance of the issues, and the need for lasting and effective corrective action were discussed with members of your staff at the inspection exit meeting on December 10, 1999. As a result, it may not be necessary to conduct a predecisional enforcement conference in order to enable the NRC to make an enforcement decision.

In addition, since your facility has not been the subject of escalated enforcement actions within the last 2 years, and based on our understanding of your corrective action, a civil penalty may not be warranted in accordance with Section VI.B.2 of the Enforcement Policy. The final

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decision will be based on your confirming on the license docket that the corrective actions previously described to the staff have been or are being taken.

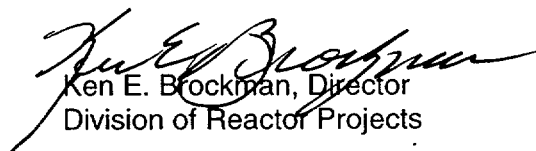
Before the NRC makes its enforcement decision, we are providing you an opportunity to either: (1) respond in writing to the apparent violations addressed in this inspection report within 30 days of the date of this letter or (2) request a predecisional enforcement conference. If a conference is held, it will be open for public observation. The NRC will also issue a press release to announce the conference. Please contact Joseph I. Tapia at (817) 860-8243 within 7 days of the date of this letter to notify the NRC of your intended response.

If you choose to respond in writing, your response should be clearly marked as a "Response to Apparent Violations in Inspection Report No. 50-416/99-19" and should include for each apparent violation: (1) the reason for the apparent violation, or, if contested, the basis for disputing the apparent violation, (2) the corrective steps that have been taken and the results achieved, (3) the corrective steps that will be taken to avoid further violations, and (4) the date when full compliance will be achieved. Your response should be submitted under oath or affirmation and may reference or include previous docketed correspondence, if the correspondence adequately addresses the required response. If an adequate response is not received within the time specified or an extension of time has not been granted by the NRC, the NRC will proceed with its enforcement decision or schedule a predecisional enforcement conference.

In addition, please be advised that the number and characterization of apparent violations described in the enclosed inspection report may change as a result of further NRC review. You will be advised by separate correspondence of the results of our deliberations on this matter.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosure, and your response (if you choose to provide one) will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR). To the extent possible, your response should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be placed in the PDR without redaction.

Sincerely,

  
Ken E. Brockman, Director  
Division of Reactor Projects

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

Enclosure:  
NRC Inspection Report No.  
50-416/99-19

Entergy Operations, Inc.

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cc w/enclosure:

Executive Vice President  
and Chief Operating Officer  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
P.O. Box 31995  
Jackson, Mississippi 39286-1995

Wise, Carter, Child & Caraway  
P.O. Box 651  
Jackson, Mississippi 39205

Winston & Strawn  
1400 L Street, N.W. - 12th Floor  
Washington, DC 20005-3502

Sam Mabry, Director  
Division of Solid Waste Management  
Mississippi Department of Natural  
Resources  
P.O. Box 10385  
Jackson, Mississippi 39209

President, District 1  
Claiborne County Board of Supervisors  
P.O. Box 339  
Port Gibson, Mississippi 39150

General Manager  
Grand Gulf Nuclear Station  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
P.O. Box 756  
Port Gibson, Mississippi 39150

The Honorable Richard Ieyoub  
Attorney General  
Department of Justice  
State of Louisiana  
P.O. Box 94005  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9005

Office of the Governor  
State of Mississippi  
Jackson, Mississippi 39201

Entergy Operations, Inc.

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Mike Moore, Attorney General  
Frank Spencer, Asst. Attorney General  
State of Mississippi  
P.O. Box 22947  
Jackson, Mississippi 39225

Dr. F. E. Thompson, Jr.  
State Health Officer  
State Board of Health  
P.O. Box 1700  
Jackson, Mississippi 39205

Robert W. Goff, Program Director  
Division of Radiological Health  
Mississippi Dept. of Health  
P.O. Box 1700  
Jackson, Mississippi 39215-1700

Vice President  
Operations Support  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
P.O. Box 31995  
Jackson, Mississippi 39286-1995

Director, Nuclear Safety  
and Regulatory Affairs  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
P.O. Box 756  
Port Gibson, Mississippi 39150

Vice President, Operations  
Grand Gulf Nuclear Station  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
P.O. Box 756  
Port Gibson, Mississippi 39150

- E-Mail report to D. Lange (DJL)
- E-Mail report to NRR Event Tracking System (IPAS)
- E-Mail report to Document Control Desk (DOCDESK)
- E-Mail report to J. D. Wilcox (JDW)
- E-Mail report to Frank Talbot (FXT)

E-Mail notification of report issuance to the GG SRI and Site Secretary (JLD, MJS).

E-Mail notification of issuance of all documents to Nancy Holbrook (NBH).

bcc to DCD (IE01)

bcc distrib. by RIV:

Regional Administrator

DRP Director

DRS Director

Branch Chief (DRP/A)

Project Engineer (DRP/A)

Branch Chief (DRP/TSS)

G. F. Sanborn, D:ACES

K. D. Smith, RC

R. W. Borchardt, OE, MS: O14E1

OE:EA File, MS: O14E1

Resident Inspector

RIV File

RITS Coordinator

DOCUMENT NAME: R:\\_GG\GG919RP-JLD.wpd

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RIV:SRI	RI	C:DRP/A	ACES <i>JW/KS</i>	D/DRP
JLDixon-Herrity <i>JH</i>	PJAlter <i>per</i>	JITapia <i>JIT</i>	GFSanborn	KEBrockman <i>KEB</i>
1/3/00 <i>email</i>	1/3/00 <i>email</i>	1/4/00	1/7/00	1/7/00

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JLDixon-Herrity	PJAlter	JITapia	GFSanborn	KEBrockman
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