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

September 4, 2012

Mr. Eric W. Olson
Site Vice President
Entergy Operations, Inc.
River Bend Station
5485 US Highway 61
St. Francisville, LA 70775

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR RIVER BEND STATION (REPORT 05000458/2012006)

Dear Mr. Olson:

On August 15, 2012, the NRC completed its mid-cycle performance review of River Bend Station. The NRC reviewed the most recent quarterly performance indicators (PIs) in addition to inspection results and enforcement actions from July 1, 2011, through June 30, 2012. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of your facility during this period and its plans for future inspections at your facility. The security inspection plan will be sent via separate correspondence.

The NRC determined the performance at River Bend Station during the most recent quarter was within the Regulatory Response column of the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Action Matrix. During the second quarter of 2012, the Scrams with Complications Performance Indicator crossed the Green-White threshold and remained White at the end of the assessment period. The performance indicator turned White following a complicated reactor scram on May 24, 2012.

Consistent with the guidance in Inspection Manual Chapter 0305, "Operating Reactor Assessment Program," the NRC will conduct a supplemental inspection using Inspection Procedure 95001, "Supplemental Inspection for One or Two Inputs in a Strategic Performance Area." The objectives of this supplemental inspection are to provide assurance that the root causes and contributing causes of risk-significant performance issues are understood, the extent of condition and extent of cause of risk-significant performance issues are identified, and your corrective actions for risk-significant performance issues are sufficient to address the root and contributing causes and prevent recurrence. The NRC will perform this inspection after you notify us, in writing, of your readiness for inspection.

In our assessment letter dated March 5, 2012, (ML 120610414), the NRC identified a cross-cutting theme in the Safety Conscious Work Environment component of Environment for Raising Concerns. Specifically, issuance of the Confirmatory Order dated August 22, 2011, that involved discrimination constituted a theme. The cross-cutting aspect was related to behavior and actions that encourage free flow of information related to raising nuclear safety issues such that personnel raise nuclear safety issues without fear of retaliation [S.1(a)]. At that time, the

NRC determined that substantive cross-cutting issue associated with S.1 (a) did not exist because the NRC did not have concerns with the actions you committed to take to address the theme. The NRC will continue to monitor your staff's effort and progress in addressing the theme until the theme criteria no longer exists and Confirmatory Order actions are complete.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through December 31, 2013. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. In addition to the baseline inspections, consistent with the Agency's actions related to Fukushima, the NRC will perform TI-187, "Inspection of Near-Term Task Force Recommendation 2.3 Flooding Walkdowns," and TI-188, "Inspection of Near-Term Task Force Recommendation 2.3 Seismic Walkdowns." The inspections listed during the last nine months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the end-of-cycle performance review. The NRC provides the inspection plan to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues. The NRC will contact you as soon as possible to discuss changes to the inspection plan should circumstances warrant any changes. This inspection plan does not include security related inspections, which will be sent via separate, non-publicly available correspondence.

In accordance with 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 document 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 Vince Gaddy at 817-200-1144 with any questions you may have regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Kriss M. Kennedy

Kriss M. Kennedy, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No.: 50-458
License No.: NPF-47

Enclosure: River Bend Station Inspection / Activity Plan

cc w/Enclosure: Electronic Distribution

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ADAMS: ☐ No ☒ Yes	☒ SUNSI Review Complete	Reviewer Initials:VGG
	☒ Publicly Available	☒ Non-Sensitive
	☐ Non-publicly Available	☐ Sensitive

C:DRP/C	D:DRS	D:DRP	
VGaddy	TBlount	KKennedy	
/RA/	**/PLouden for/**	**/RA/**	
8/20/12	8/21/12	8/28/12	

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River Bend
Inspection / Activity Plan
09/01/2012 - 12/31/2013

Unit Number	Planned Dates Start	Planned Dates End	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
			92702	**- FOLLOWUP TO CONFIRMATORY ORDER (QA/QC)**	1
1	01/01/2012	12/31/2012	IP 92702	Followup On Corrective Actions For Violations And Deviations	
			2515/182	**- DEGRADATION UNDERGROUND PIPING (PHASE 1)**	2
1	03/01/2012	06/30/2013	IP 2515/182	Review of the Implementation of the Industry Initiative to Control Degradation of Underground Piping	
			EXAM	**- INITIAL OPERATOR EXAM**	4
1	09/24/2012	09/28/2012	X02496	INITIAL EXAM FOR RIVER BEND STATION (01/01/2012)	
1	11/12/2012	11/16/2012	X02496	INITIAL EXAM FOR RIVER BEND STATION (01/01/2012)	
			2515/187	**- NTTF FLOODING WALKDOWNS**	2
1	07/01/2012	12/31/2012	IP 2515/187	Inspection of Near-Term Task Force Recommendation 2.3 Flooding Walkdowns	
			2515/188	**- NTTF SEISMIC WALKDOWNS**	2
1	07/06/2012	12/31/2012	IP 2515/188	Inspection of Near-Term Task Force Recommendation 2.3 Seismic Walkdowns	
			AIT	**- AIT FOLLOW-UP INSPECTION**	3
1	08/01/2012	12/01/2012	IP 93800	Augmented Inspection Team	
			2515/187	**- NTTF FLOODING WALKDOWNS**	2
1	01/01/2013	12/31/2013	IP 2515/187	Inspection of Near-Term Task Force Recommendation 2.3 Flooding Walkdowns	
			2515/188	**- NTTF SEISMIC WALKDOWNS**	2
1	01/01/2013	12/31/2013	IP 2515/188	Inspection of Near-Term Task Force Recommendation 2.3 Seismic Walkdowns	
			PSB2-ISI	**- INSERVICE INSPECTION**	1
1	02/18/2013	03/01/2013	IP 7111108G	Inservice Inspection Activities - BWR	
			PSB2-RP	**- RADIATION SAFETY**	2
1	02/25/2013	03/01/2013	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1	02/25/2013	03/01/2013	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	02/25/2013	03/01/2013	IP 71151-OR01	Occupational Exposure Control Effectiveness	
1	02/25/2013	03/01/2013	IP 71151-PR01	RETS/ODCM Radiological Effluent	
			EB2-05T	**- TRIENNIAL FIRE PROTECTION INSPECTION**	4
1	04/15/2013	04/19/2013	IP 7111105T	Fire Protection [Triennial]	
1	04/29/2013	05/03/2013	IP 7111105T	Fire Protection [Triennial]	
			EP1	**- BIENNIAL PROGRAM INSPECTION**	1
1	04/15/2013	04/19/2013	IP 7111401	Exercise Evaluation	
1	04/15/2013	04/19/2013	IP 7111402	Alert and Notification System Testing	
1	04/15/2013	04/19/2013	IP 7111403	Emergency Preparedness Organization Staffing and Augmentation System	
1	04/15/2013	04/19/2013	IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies	

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.
This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.

River Bend
Inspection / Activity Plan
09/01/2012 - 12/31/2013

Unit Number	Planned Dates Start	End	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
			PI&R 52B	**- BIENNIAL PI&R**	4
1	06/10/2013	06/28/2013	IP 71152B	Problem Identification and Resolution	
			PSB2-RP	**- RADIATION SAFETY**	4
1	11/18/2013	11/22/2013	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
1	11/18/2013	11/22/2013	IP 71124.06	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment	
1	11/18/2013	11/22/2013	IP 71124.07	Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program	
1	11/18/2013	11/22/2013	IP 71124.08	Radioactive Solid Waste Processing and Radioactive Material Handling, Storage, and Transportation	

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This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.