

NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION Office of Public Affairs Telephone: 301/415-8200 Washington, DC 20555-0001 E-mail: opa@nrc.gov Web Site: <u>www.nrc.gov</u>

No. 02-042

April 4, 2002

NRC APPROVES POWER UPRATE FOR WATERFORD ELECTRIC STATION, UNIT 3

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has approved a request by Entergy Operations, Inc. to increase the generating capacity of the Waterford Electric Station, Unit 3, by about 1.5 percent, or about 16 megawatts.

The power uprate at the plant, 20 miles west of New Orleans, Louisiana, will increase the generating capacity of the reactor to about 1,169 megawatts of electricity. The facility intends to implement the power increase during its current outage. The application for the increase in power was submitted to the NRC on September 21, 2001.

The NRC's safety evaluation of the requested power uprate for the plant focused on several areas, including nuclear steam supply systems, instrumentation and control systems, electrical systems, accident evaluations, radiological consequences, operations and technical specification changes. The NRC staff determined that the licensee could safely increase the power output of the reactor by making certain plant instrumentation modifications.

###