

**Additional Information**  
**Representative Mucarsel-Powell**  
**Letter Dated September 1, 2020**

**1. Special inspection associated with the August 2020 unplanned shutdowns:**

The special inspection's objectives are to assess the circumstances surrounding three unplanned shutdowns that occurred at Turkey Point Nuclear Generating Station (Turkey Point) on August 17, August 19, and August 20, 2020; to promptly disseminate the facts, conditions, circumstances, and causes of the events; and to identify appropriate follow-up actions. The special inspection team completed a 1-week onsite evaluation from August 31-September 4, 2020. The team continues to evaluate the information obtained onsite.

The scope of the inspection includes the following areas:

- reviewing the circumstances leading up to the shutdowns on August 17, 19, and 20, 2020, and actions taken by the licensee to address issues related to the shutdowns;
- assessing reactor operator performance and licensee decisionmaking;
- reviewing the adequacy of reactor operator training;
- evaluating the extent to which identified issues have the potential to impact other reactor operating crews;
- assessing whether there were any implications related to operators feeling pressured to restart the reactor or the site's safety culture; and
- evaluating equipment reliability for the systems that were challenged during the unplanned shutdowns that occurred on August 17 and August 20. (Equipment reliability was determined not to be a factor in the August 19 unplanned shutdown).

The inspection conclusions and any findings will be documented in the special inspection team's final report within 45 days of inspection completion. The inspection report is expected to be available in early November 2020.

**2. Impacts of the Recent Unplanned Shutdowns:**

None of the three unplanned shutdowns had an impact on public health and safety, including the safety of employees at the plant. The NRC staff determined that the August 19, 2020, unplanned shutdown was automatically initiated by the plant's reactor protection system, and the unplanned shutdowns on August 17, and August 20, 2020, were started by plant operators before an automatic shutdown needed to be initiated. Plant safety systems functioned as designed during each unplanned shutdown.

**3. Safety Culture at Turkey Point:**

Recognizing that events like unplanned shutdowns may be an indicator of, or may result from, undetected safety culture issues, the NRC special inspection includes a focused look at whether safety culture issues exist. Any conclusions made regarding safety culture, will be documented in the inspection report.

Enclosure

**4. NRC investigation of falsification of records related to inspection and maintenance:**

On July 23, 2020, the NRC staff issued an inspection report that included the results of an investigation that found work order records associated with required inspection and maintenance of a safety-related check valve appeared to be falsified, which, if substantiated, would be a violation of regulatory requirements.<sup>1</sup> The final enforcement determination for this apparent violation will be made following an alternative dispute resolution session with the licensee scheduled for November 2020.

**5. 2019 NRC inspection related to valve inspections and maintenance:**

On April 15, 2019, the NRC staff issued an inspection report that documented three findings related to valve inspections and maintenance.<sup>2</sup> Each of the findings was determined to be a violation of NRC requirements. Each violation was individually assessed for significance and determined to be of very low safety significance, or a "green" finding.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Inspection report 05000250/2020011 and 05000251/2020011 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML20205L316).

<sup>2</sup> Inspection report 05000250/2019010 and 05000251/2019010 (ADAMS Accession No. ML19105B281).

<sup>3</sup> The violations were assessed using established NRC inspection procedures (NRC Inspection Manual Chapter 0609, Appendix A).