

DEC 17 1985

Docket No. 50-416

Mr. Jackson B. Richard
Senior Vice President, Nuclear
Mississippi Power & Light Company
P.O. Box 23054
Jackson, Mississippi 39205

Dear Mr. Richard:

Enclosed for your information is a copy of a "Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating License and Proposed No Significant Hazards Consideration Determination and Opportunity for Hearing," related to your November 14, 1985, amendment request. This notice has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by

Walter R. Butler, Director
BWR Project Directorate No. 4
Division of BWR Licensing

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/enclosure:
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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Walter R. Butler".

Walter R. Butler, Director
BWR Project Directorate No. 4
Division of BWR Licensing

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

Mr. Jackson B. Richard
Mississippi Power & Light Company

Grand Gulf Nuclear Station

cc:

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
MISSISSIPPI POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY
MIDDLE SOUTH ENERGY, INC.
SOUTH MISSISSIPPI ELECTRIC POWER ASSOCIATION
DOCKET NO. 50-416

NOTICE OF CONSIDERATION OF ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT TO
FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE AND PROPOSED NO SIGNIFICANT HAZARDS
CONSIDERATION DETERMINATION AND OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPF-29, issued to Mississippi Power and Light Company, Middle South Energy, Inc., and South Mississippi Electric Power Association (the licensees), for operation of the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station, Unit 1, located in Claiborne County, Mississippi.

The amendment would: (1) change Technical Specification Figure 6.2.1-1 "Offsite Organization" and make other changes in Section 6 "Administrative Controls" to reflect proposed changes in the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station (GGNS) Nuclear Production Department (NPD); and, (2) terminate the requirement in License Condition 2.C.(28) that an MP&L staff member (or members) who has substantial commercial nuclear power plant operating management experience act as advisor to the vice president in charge of nuclear operations until the plant has operated for at least six months at power levels above 90% of full power. These changes were requested in the licensees' letter dated November 14, 1985.

Before issuance of the proposed license amendment, the Commission will have made findings required by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act) and the Commission's regulations.

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The Commission has made a proposed determination that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration. Under the Commission's regulations in 10 CFR 50.92, this means that operation of the facility in accordance with the proposed amendment would not (1) involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated; or (2) create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated; or (3) involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety.

Change (1) consists of a reorganization of the GGNS Nuclear Production Department at the higher levels of management. The major changes would be the deletion of the position of the Senior Vice President who reports to the President resulting in more direct management of the GGNS activities by the President. The responsibilities of the Vice President, Nuclear Operations would be increased by assigning to this position the responsibilities for GGNS Unit 1 project management including preparation of plant modification costs and schedules and management of plant outages which is presently assigned to the Director, Nuclear Engineering and Support. A new position Site Director, GGNS reporting to the Vice President, Nuclear Operations, would have direct responsibilities for GGNS Unit 1 operation and plant modifications. The present position of Director of Nuclear Engineering and Construction would be elevated to Vice President, Nuclear Engineering and Support, and responsibilities would be increased by having the present Director, Quality Assurance and Director, Nuclear Support report to the new position. Except for a change of title for Nuclear Plant Engineering from Manager to Director and for the combining of the two positions for

Nuclear Fuels and Nuclear Services into one position of Manager, Nuclear Services and Fuels, the remaining position titles and responsibilities in the NPD remain unchanged. The NRC staff has made a preliminary review of the proposed changes to the GGNS Nuclear Production Department. The elimination of the position of Senior Vice President would provide a higher level of direct management involvement in GGNS activities; however, the experience of a senior management person would not be available to him. The Director, Quality Assurance would report to the Vice President, Nuclear Engineering and Support who would have direct responsibility for engineering but not for plant modification costs and scheduling. The Director, Quality Assurance would have a direct communication path to the President available to him. The creation of the position Manager GGNS Unit 1 Projects to interface with engineering and construction for plant modifications will permit the unit operations staff to concentrate on plant operations and plant procedures. The position of Site Director, GGNS, will provide a high level of management onsite for solving operation problems and interfacing with offsite organizations, leaving the GGNS General Manager more time to concentrate on day-to-day plant operation. Other changes in the Technical Specifications would be made to make the Safety Review Committee members and quorum consistent with the proposed NPD organization and to assign responsibility for designating review of plant modifications to the Site Director, GGNS rather than the GGNS General Manager.

Based on its preliminary review, the staff concludes that change (1), NPD management organization change, does not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously analyzed because

change (1) will not degrade the effectiveness of the management of GGNS safety related activities related to review and management of proposed plant procedure changes and plant modifications and will enhance management of plant operations. For the same reasons, change (1) does not involve the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated. Change (1) does not involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety because it does not involve any changes to plant equipment design or safety analysis.

Change (2), termination of the license requirement for an experienced management advisor to the Vice President, Nuclear Operations, is requested because licensee's corporate management has had, since March 1985 a Vice President, Nuclear Operations who has 14 years of commercial nuclear power plant operating management experience. In addition, the President, who joined licensee's organization in 1984 has 15 years of commercial nuclear power plant management experience. License Condition 2.C(28) was included in the June 1982 operating license because such experience was lacking in the corporate management at that time. The plant operating history includes approximately 65 cumulative days with the plant above 90% of full power. The present advisor desires to end his services at the end of 1985 and the retention of another advisor for a short term assignment is unlikely to provide substantial input to management. The staff concludes that change (2) does not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously analyzed nor does it involve the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously

analyzed because of the substantial relevant experience brought into the organization by the President in early 1984 and by the Vice President, Nuclear Operations in early 1985. Change (2) does not involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety because it does not involve any changes to plant equipment design or safety analyses.

Accordingly, for reasons cited above, the Commission proposes to determine that these two changes do not involve significant hazards considerations.

The Commission is seeking public comments on this proposed determination. Any comments received within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice will be considered in making any final determination. The Commission will not normally make a final determination unless it receives a request for a hearing. Written comments may be submitted to the Rules and Procedures Branch, Division of Rules and Records, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555. Comments may also be delivered to Room 4000, Maryland National Bank Building, Bethesda, Maryland from 8:15 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Copies of comments received may be examined at the NRC Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, NW., Washington, DC.

By *January 1, 1986,* the licensee may file a request for a hearing with respect to issuance of the amendment to the subject facility operating license and any person whose interest may be affected by this proceeding and who wishes to participate as a party in the proceeding must file a written petition for leave to intervene. Request for a hearing and petitions for leave to intervene shall be filed in accordance with the

Commission's "Rules of Practice for Domestic Licensing Proceedings" in 10 CFR Part 2. If a request for a hearing or petition for leave to intervene is filed by the above date, the Commission or an Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, designated by the Commission or by the Chairman of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel, will rule on the request and/or petition and the Secretary or the designated Atomic Safety and Licensing Board will issue a notice of hearing or an appropriate order.

As required by 10 CFR §2.714, a petition for leave to intervene shall set forth with particularity the interest of the petitioner in the proceeding, and how that interest may be affected by the results of the proceeding. The petition should specifically explain the reasons why intervention should be permitted with particular reference to the following factors: (1) the nature of the petitioner's right under the Act to be made a party to the proceeding; (2) the nature and extent of the petitioner's property, financial, or other interest in the proceeding; and (3) the possible effect of any order which may be entered in the proceeding on the petitioner's interest. The petition should also identify the specific aspect(s) of the subject matter of the proceeding as to which petitioner wishes to intervene. Any person who has filed a petition for leave to intervene or who has been admitted as a party may amend the petition without requesting leave of the Board up to fifteen (15) days prior to the first prehearing conference scheduled in the proceeding, but such an amended petition must satisfy the specificity requirements described above.

Not later than fifteen (15) days prior to the first prehearing conference scheduled in the proceeding, a petitioner shall file a

supplement to the petition to intervene which must include a list of the contentions which are sought to be litigated in the matter, and the bases for each contention set forth with reasonable specificity. Contentions shall be limited to matters within the scope of the amendment under consideration. A petitioner who fails to file such a supplement which satisfies these requirements with respect to at least one contention will not be permitted to participate as a party.

Those permitted to intervene become parties to the proceeding, subject to any limitations in the order granting leave to intervene, and have the opportunity to participate fully in the conduct of the hearing, including the opportunity to present evidence and cross-examine witnesses.

If a hearing is requested, the Commission will make a final determination on the issue of no significant hazards consideration. The final determination will serve to decide when the hearing is held.

If the final determination is that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration, the Commission may issue the amendment and make it effective, notwithstanding the request for a hearing. Any hearing held would take place after issuance of the amendment.

If the final determination is that the amendment involves a significant hazards consideration, any hearing held would take place before the issuance of any amendment.

Normally, the Commission will not issue the amendment until the expiration of the 30-day notice period. However, should circumstances change during the notice period such that failure to act in a timely way would result, for example, in derating or shutdown of the facility, the

Commission may issue the license amendment before the expiration of the 30-day notice period, provided that its final determination is that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration. The final determination will consider all public and State comments received. Should the Commission take this action, it will publish a notice of issuance and provide for opportunity for a hearing after issuance. The Commission expects that the need to take this action will occur very infrequently.

A request for a hearing or a petition for leave to intervene shall be filed with the Secretary of the Commission, United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D. C. 20555, Attention: Docketing and Service Branch, or may be delivered to the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, D. C., by the above date. Where petitions are filed during the last ten (10) days of the notice period, it is requested that the petitioner or representative for the petitioner promptly so inform the Commission by a toll-free telephone call to Western Union at (800) 325-6000 (in Missouri (800) 342-6700). The Western Union operator should be give Datagram Identification 3737 and the following message addressed to Walter R. Butler: petitioner's name and telephone number; date petition was mailed; plant name; and publication date and page number of this FEDERAL REGISTER notice. A copy of the petition should also be sent to the Executive Legal Director, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D. C. 20555, and to Nicholas S. Reynolds, Esquire, Bishop, Liberman, Cook, Purcell and Reynolds, 1200 17th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036, attorney for the licensee.

Nontimely filings of petitions for leave to intervene, amended petitions, supplemental petitions and/or requests for hearing will not be entertained absent a determination by the Commission, the presiding officer or the presiding Atomic Safety and Licensing Board that the petition and/or request, should be granted based upon a balancing of the factors specified in 10 CFR 2.714(a)(1)(i)-(v) and 2.714(d).

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., and at the Hinds Junior College, McLendon Library, Raymond, Mississippi 39154.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland, this 26th day of November 1985.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Walter R. Butler, Director
BWR Project Directorate No. 4
Division of BWR Licening