

January 30, 1992

Docket No. 50-416

Mr. William T. Cottle  
Vice President, Operations GGNS  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
Post Office Box 756  
Port Gibson, Mississippi 39150

Dear Mr. Cottle:

SUBJECT: ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT NO. 88 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE  
NO. NPF-29 - GRAND GULF NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 1 (TAC NO. M81794)

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 88 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-29 for the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station, Unit 1. This amendment consists of changes to the Technical Specifications (TS) in response to your application dated September 25, 1991.

The amendment revises the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station Technical Specifications to allow the use of a new main hoist grapple mast on the refueling platform.

A copy of our related Safety Evaluation is also enclosed. A Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's next biweekly Federal Register notice.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Paul W. O'Connor, Senior Project Manager  
Project Directorate IV-1  
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV/V  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosures:

1. Amendment No. 88 to NPF-29
2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosures:  
See next page

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DATE	1/14/92	1/14/92	1/14/92	1/16/92	1/27/92	1/30/92

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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 "Paul W. O'Connor".

Paul W. O'Connor, Senior Project Manager  
Project Directorate IV-1  
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV/V  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosures:

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2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosures:  
See next page

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Entergy Operations, Inc.

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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

ENERGY OPERATIONS, INC.

SYSTEM ENERGY RESOURCES, INC.

SOUTH MISSISSIPPI ELECTRIC POWER ASSOCIATION

MISSISSIPPI POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY

DOCKET NO. 50-416

GRAND GULF NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 1

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 88  
License No. NPF-29

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
  - A. The application for amendment by Entergy Operations, Inc. (the licensee) dated September 25, 1991, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
  - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
  - C. There is reasonable assurance (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations;
  - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
  - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.

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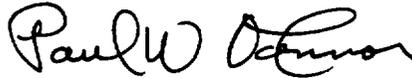
2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications, as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment; and paragraph 2.C.(2) of Facility Operating License No. NPF-29 is hereby amended to read as follows:

(2) Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A and the Environmental Protection Plan contained in Appendix B, as revised through Amendment No. 88, are hereby incorporated into this license. Entergy Operations, Inc. shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications and the Environmental Protection Plan.

3. This license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



for John T. Larkins, Director  
Project Directorate IV-1  
Division of Reactor Projects III, IV, and V  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment:  
Changes to the Technical  
Specifications

Date of Issuance: January 30, 1992

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 88

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-29

DOCKET NO. 50-416

Replace the following pages of the Appendix A Technical Specifications with the attached pages. The revised pages are identified by amendment number and contain vertical lines indicating the area of change. The corresponding overleaf pages are also provided to maintain document completeness.

REMOVE PAGES

3/4 9-8

B 3/4 9-1

INSERT PAGES

3/4 9-8

B 3/4 9-1

REFUELING OPERATIONS

3/4.9.5 COMMUNICATIONS

LIMITING CONDITION FOR OPERATION

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3.9.5 Direct communication shall be maintained between the control room and refueling platform personnel.

APPLICABILITY: OPERATIONAL CONDITION 5, during CORE ALTERATIONS.\*

ACTION:

When direct communication between the control room and refueling platform personnel cannot be maintained, immediately suspend CORE ALTERATIONS.\*

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS

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4.9.5 Direct communication between the control room and refueling platform personnel shall be demonstrated within one hour prior to the start of and at least once per 12 hours during CORE ALTERATIONS.\*

\*Except movement of control rods with their normal drive system.

## REFUELING OPERATIONS

### 3/4.9.6 REFUELING EQUIPMENT

#### REFUELING PLATFORM

##### LIMITING CONDITION FOR OPERATION

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3.9.6.1 The refueling platform shall be OPERABLE and only the main hoist using the following shall be used for handling fuel assemblies:

- a. NF-500 mast, or
- b. NF-400 mast

APPLICABILITY: During handling of fuel assemblies or control rods in the primary containment with the refueling platform.

##### ACTION:

With the requirements for refueling platform OPERABILITY not satisfied, suspend use of any inoperable refueling platform equipment from operations involving the handling of fuel assemblies or control rods after placing the load in a safe condition.

##### SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS

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4.9.6.1 Each refueling platform hoist to be used for handling fuel assemblies or control rods shall be demonstrated OPERABLE within 7 days prior to the handling of fuel assemblies or control rods:

- a. In the containment fuel pool, reactor cavity or reactor pressure vessel by:
  1. Demonstrating operation of the slack cable cutoff on the main hoist when the total cable load is  $50 \pm 10$  pounds.
  2. Demonstrating operation of the grapple engaged loaded interlock on the main hoist before the total cable load exceeds 750(535)\* pounds.
  3. Demonstrating operation of the jam cutoff on the main hoist before the total cable load exceeds 1430(1250)\* pounds.
  4. Demonstrating operation of primary and redundant overload cutoff on the auxiliary hoists before the load exceeds 550 pounds.
- b. In or over the reactor pressure vessel by:
  1. Demonstrating operation of the downtravel cutoff on the main hoist when the bottom of the grapple is  $\geq 1.0$  inch above the top guide.
  2. Demonstrating operation of the primary and redundant fuel load interlocks on the main hoist before the total cable load exceeds 750(600)\* pounds.

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\* When the NF-400 mast is in use, setpoints in ( ) apply for these surveillance requirements.

## 3/4.9 REFUELING OPERATIONS

### BASES

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#### 3/4.9.1 REACTOR MODE SWITCH

Locking the OPERABLE reactor mode switch in the Shutdown or Refuel position, as specified, ensures that the restrictions on control rod withdrawal and refueling platform movement during the refueling operations are properly activated. These conditions reinforce the refueling procedures and reduce the probability of inadvertent criticality, damage to reactor internals or fuel assemblies, and exposure of personnel to excessive radioactivity.

#### 3/4.9.2 INSTRUMENTATION

The OPERABILITY of at least two source range monitors ensures that redundant monitoring capability is available to detect changes in the reactivity condition of the core.

#### 3/4.9.3 CONTROL ROD POSITION

The requirement that all control rods be inserted during other CORE ALTERATIONS ensures that fuel will not be loaded into a cell without a control rod.

#### 3/4.9.4 DECAY TIME

The minimum requirement for reactor subcriticality prior to fuel movement ensures that sufficient time has elapsed to allow the radioactive decay of the short lived fission products. This decay time is consistent with the assumptions used in the accident analyses.

#### 3/4.9.5 COMMUNICATIONS

The requirement for communications capability ensures that refueling station personnel can be promptly informed of significant changes in the facility status or core reactivity condition during movement of fuel within the reactor pressure vessel.

#### 3/4.9.6 REFUELING EQUIPMENT

The OPERABILITY requirements ensure that (1) only the main hoist of the refueling platform or the main hoist of the fuel handling platform will be used for handling fuel assemblies within the reactor pressure vessel, (2) platform hoists have sufficient load capacity for handling fuel assemblies and/or control rods, (3) the core internals and pressure vessel are protected from excessive lifting force in the event they are inadvertently engaged during lifting operations, and (4) a fuel bundle is protected from excessive lifting force in the event it becomes stuck during lifting operations.

## REFUELING OPERATIONS

### BASES

#### 3/4.9.7 CRANE TRAVEL - SPENT FUEL AND UPPER CONTAINMENT FUEL STORAGE POOLS

The restriction on movement of loads in excess of the nominal weight of a fuel assembly over other fuel assemblies in the storage pools ensures that in the event this load is dropped (1) the activity release will be limited to that contained in a single fuel assembly, and (2) any possible distortion of fuel in the storage racks will not result in a critical array. This assumption is consistent with the activity release assumed in the safety analyses.

#### 3/4.9.8 and 3/4.9.9 WATER LEVEL - REACTOR VESSEL and WATER LEVEL - SPENT FUEL AND UPPER CONTAINMENT FUEL STORAGE POOLS

The restrictions on minimum water level ensure that sufficient water depth is available to remove 99% of the assumed 10% iodine gas activity released from the rupture of an irradiated fuel assembly. This minimum water depth is consistent with the assumptions of the accident analysis.

#### 3/4.9.10 CONTROL ROD REMOVAL

These specifications ensure that maintenance or repair of control rods or control rod drives will be performed under conditions that limit the probability of inadvertent criticality. The requirements for simultaneous removal of more than one control rod are more stringent since the SHUTDOWN MARGIN specification provides for the core to remain subcritical with only one control rod fully withdrawn.

#### 3/4.9.11 RESIDUAL HEAT REMOVAL AND COOLANT CIRCULATION

An OPERABLE residual heat removal (RHR) system shutdown cooling mode train consists of at least one OPERABLE RHR pump and one OPERABLE RHR heat exchanger train.

The requirement that at least one residual heat removal loop be OPERABLE and in operation or that an alternate method capable of decay heat removal be demonstrated and that an alternate method of coolant mixing be in operation ensures that (1) sufficient cooling capacity is available to remove decay heat and maintain the water in the reactor pressure vessel below 140°F as required during REFUELING, and (2) sufficient coolant circulation would be available through the reactor core to assure accurate temperature indication and to distribute and prevent stratification of the poison in the event it becomes necessary to actuate the standby liquid control system.

The requirement to have two shutdown cooling mode loops OPERABLE when there is less than 22 feet 8 inches of water above the reactor vessel flange ensures that a single failure of the operating loop will not result in a complete loss of residual heat removal capability. With the reactor vessel head removed and 22 feet 8 inches of water above the reactor vessel flange, a large heat sink is available for core cooling. Thus, in the event a failure of the operating RHR loop, adequate time is provided to initiate alternate methods capable of decay heat removal or emergency procedures to cool the core.



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION  
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 88 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-29  
ENERGY OPERATIONS, INC., ET AL.  
GRAND GULF NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 1  
DOCKET NO. 50-416

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated September 25, 1991, the licensee (Entergy Operations, Inc.), submitted a request for changes to the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station, Unit 1, Technical Specifications (TS). The requested changes would revise the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station Technical Specifications to allow the use of a new main hoist grapple mast on the refueling platform.

2.0 EVALUATION

The current main hoist grapple mast (General Electric Model NF400) on the refueling platform at Grand Gulf Nuclear Station (GGNS) is composed of four open-frame telescoping triangular sections. It is being replaced by a mast of a new design (General Electric Model NF500) composed of three tubular telescoping sections. The new design is significantly less prone to mast bowing that could result in structural damage or grapple misalignment and reduces the amount of potentially contaminated pool water that may drip onto refueling bridge personnel. The new mast meets or exceeds the requirements for the existing mast in all aspects, but has a dry weight that is 420 pounds greater than the old mast.

As a result of the increased weight, the weight-dependant interlocks for the mast require new setpoints. These interlocks include the grapple engaged loaded interlock and the main hoist fuel loaded interlock. These interlocks assure that the grapple is engaged, that no control rods are moved while the hoist is loaded and located over the reactor vessel, and that the hoist is not operated if a control rod is withdrawn while the platform is over the vessel with the hoist loaded. Both interlock setpoints are increased from 535 to 700 pounds to compensate for the added submerged weight of the new mast. In addition, the setpoint of the main hoist jam cutoff interlock, which limits the lifting forces of the main hoist, is increased from 1250 to 1430 pounds. The new setpoint values ensure actuation of these interlocks when required and provide the same level of protection with the new mast as with the old.

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The associated Design Basis Accidents have been evaluated for the new mast. The Fuel Handling Accident (FHA) analysis does not consider the weight of the mast/grapple assembly as part of the dropped weight. As a result, the added weight of the new mast is not a factor, and since the installation of the NF500 mast does not change the features protecting against a mast drop, the FHA analysis continues to bound accidents related to fuel handling. The FHA in the auxiliary building is not affected since the new mast will be used only on the refueling platform inside containment. GGNS has elected to conservatively maintain the current 1140 pound limit associated with the Nonfuel Load Drop analysis which continues to bound credible nonfuel drop events.

Provisions have been made in the TS changes to allow use of either the old or the new mast. The TS changes require the appropriate interlock setpoints for each mast. Both masts have been evaluated and found to conform to all requirements.

### 3.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the Mississippi State official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendment. The State official had no comments.

### 4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendment changes a requirement with respect to installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20 and changes in surveillance requirements. The NRC staff has determined that the amendment involves no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluents that may be released offsite, and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration, and there has been no public comment on such finding (56 FR 55946). Accordingly, the amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b) no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendment.

### 5.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributor: R. Twigg

Date: January 30, 1992