

November 16, 1988

Docket No. 50-458

Gulf States Utilities  
ATTN: Mr. James C. Deddens  
Senior Vice President (RBNG)  
Post Office Box 220  
St. Francisville, LA 70775

Dear Mr. Deddens:

SUBJECT: RIVER BEND STATION, UNIT 1 - AMENDMENT NO.30 TO FACILITY  
OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-47 (TAC NO. 66171)

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No.30 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-47 for the River Bend Station, Unit 1. The amendment consists of changes to the Technical Specifications (TSs) in response to your application dated June 21, 1988 as supplemented October 31, 1988.

The amendment (1) deletes the requirement for NRC approval of the asiatic clam control program prior to the introduction of river water to plant systems; and (2) deletes the requirement for monitoring to detect the presence of Corbicula in the Mississippi River and add the requirement for monitoring to detect Corbicula in the clarifier influent.

The staff has also found that the changes to the asiatic clam control program proposed by your letter dated August 31, 1987, as modified March 30, 1988, are acceptable.

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

Sincerely,

/s/

Walter A. Paulson, Project Manager  
Project Directorate - IV  
Division of Reactor Projects - III,  
IV, V and Special Projects  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosures:

- 1. Amendment No.30 to License No. NPF-47
  - 2. Safety Evaluation
- cc w/enclosures:  
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JCalvo	ARM/LFMB	OGC-Rockville	DHagan
EJordan	Plant File		

DOCUMENT NAME: RB AMEND TAC 66171

\*See previous concurrences:

PD4/LA*	PD4/PM*	RIV*	OGC-Rockville	PD4/D
PNoonan	WPaulson:st			JCalvo
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PD4/LA*	PD4/PM* <i>WAP</i>	RIV*	OGC-Rockville*	PD4/D <i>mc</i>
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/s/

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Project Directorate - IV  
Division of Reactor Projects - III,  
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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 A. Paulson".

Walter A. Paulson, Project Manager  
Project Directorate - IV  
Division of Reactor Projects - III,  
IV, V and Special Projects  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosures:

1. Amendment No. 30 to License No. NPF-47
2. Safety Evaluation

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See next page

Mr. James C. Deddens  
Gulf States Utilities Company

River Bend Nuclear Plant

cc:

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St. Francisville, LA 70775

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

GULF STATES UTILITIES COMPANY

DOCKET NO. 50-458

RIVER BEND STATION, UNIT 1

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 30  
License No. NPF-47

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
  - A. The application for amendment by Gulf States Utilities Company (the licensee) dated June 21, 1988, as supplemented October 31, 1988, 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, as amended, 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 license 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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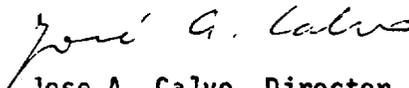
2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment and Paragraph 2.C.(2) of Facility Operating License No. NPF-47 is hereby amended to read as follows:

(2) Technical Specifications and Environmental Protection Plan

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 30 and the Environmental Protection Plan contained in Appendix B, are hereby incorporated in the license. GSU shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications and the Environmental Protection Plan.

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

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Jose A. Calvo, Director  
Project Directorate - IV  
Division of Reactor Projects - III,  
IV, V and Special Projects  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment:  
Changes to the Technical  
Specifications

Date of Issuance: November 16, 1988

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO.30

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-47

DOCKET NO. 50-458

Replace the following page of the Appendix "A" Technical Specifications with the enclosed page. The revised page is identified by Amendment number and contains a vertical line indicating the area of change. Overleaf page provided to maintain document completeness.

REMOVE PAGE

6-15

INSERT PAGE

6-15

## ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS

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### PROCEDURES AND PROGRAMS (Continued)

2. Integrated leak test requirements for each system, at refueling cycle intervals or more frequently.

#### b. In-Plant Radiation Monitoring

A program which will ensure the capability to accurately determine the airborne iodine concentration in vital areas under accident conditions. This program shall include the following:

1. Training of personnel,
2. Procedures for monitoring, and
3. Provisions for maintenance of sampling and analysis equipment.

#### c. Post-accident Sampling

A program which will ensure the capability to obtain and analyze reactor coolant, radioactive iodines and particulates in plant gaseous effluents and containment atmosphere samples, under accident conditions. The program shall include the following:

1. Training of personnel,
2. Procedures for sampling and analysis, and
3. Provisions for maintenance of sampling and analysis equipment.

#### d. Biofouling Prevention and Detection

A program, which will include the procedures to prevent biofouling of safety-related equipment, to assure detection of Corbicula in the intake embayment and the clarifier influent, and to monitor and survey safety-related equipment to detect biofouling. Changes to this program will be submitted to and approved by the NRC (both the Region and NRR) prior to implementation.

## 6.9 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

### ROUTINE REPORTS

6.9.1 In addition to the applicable reporting requirements of Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, the following reports shall be submitted to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Document Control Desk, Washington, DC 20555, with a copy to the Regional Office of the NRC and a copy to the NRC Resident Inspector, unless otherwise noted.

### STARTUP REPORT

6.9.1.1 A summary report of plant startup and power escalation testing shall be submitted following (1) receipt of an Operating License, (2) amendment to

## ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS

### STARTUP REPORT (Continued)

the license involving a planned increase in power level, (3) installation of fuel that has a different design or has been manufactured by a different fuel supplier, and (4) modifications that may have significantly altered the nuclear, thermal, or hydraulic performance of the unit.

6.9.1.2 The startup report shall address each of the tests identified in Final Safety Analysis Report (Section 14.2.12.2) and shall include a description of the measured values of the operating conditions or characteristics obtained during the test program and a comparison of these values with design predictions and specifications. Any corrective actions that were required to obtain satisfactory operation shall also be described. Any additional specific details required in license conditions based on other commitments shall be included in this report.

6.9.1.3 Startup reports shall be submitted within (1) 90 days following completion of the startup test program, (2) 90 days following resumption or commencement of commercial power operation, or (3) 9 months following initial criticality, whichever is earliest. If the startup report does not cover all three events (i.e., initial criticality, completion of startup test program, and resumption or commencement of commercial operation), supplementary reports shall be submitted at least every 3 months until all three events have been completed.

### ANNUAL REPORTS

6.9.1.4 Annual reports covering the activities of the unit as described below for the previous calendar year shall be submitted prior to March 1 of each year. The initial report shall be submitted prior to March 1 of the year following initial criticality.

6.9.1.5 Reports required on an annual basis shall include:

- a. A tabulation on an annual basis of the number of station, utility, and other personnel (including contractors) receiving exposures greater than 100 mrem/yr and their associated man-rem exposure according to work and job functions\* (e.g., reactor operations and surveillance, inservice inspection, routine maintenance, special maintenance waste processing, and refueling). The dose assignments to various duty functions may be estimated based on pocket dosimeter, thermoluminescent dosimeter (TLD), or film badge measurements. Small exposures totalling less than 20% of the individual total dose need not be accounted for. In the aggregate, at least 80% of the total whole-body dose received from external sources should be assigned to specific major work functions;
- b. Documentation of all challenges to safety/relief valves and a summary of SRV failures.

\*This tabulation supplements the requirements of §20.407 of 10 CFR Part 20.



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION  
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 30 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-47

GULF STATES UTILITIES COMPANY

RIVER BEND STATION, UNIT 1

DOCKET NO. 50-458

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated June 21, 1988, as supplemented October 31, 1988, Gulf States Utilities Company (GSU) (the licensee) requested an amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPF-47 for the River Bend Station, Unit 1. The proposed amendment would modify Technical Specification (TS) 6.8.4.d to (1) delete the requirement for NRC approval of the asiatic clam control program (ACCP) prior to the introduction of river water to plant systems; and (2) delete the requirement for monitoring to detect the presence of Corbicula in the Mississippi River and add the requirement for monitoring to detect Corbicula in the clarifier influent.

In addition, by letter dated August 31, 1987 as modified March 30, 1988, GSU proposed changes to its administrative procedure, ADM-0053, for the ACCP. The staff's approval of the changes to the ACCP are required per River Bend Station's Technical Specification 6.8.4.d, Biofouling Prevention and Detection. This program was implemented prior to introduction of river water to plant systems to prevent biofouling of safety-related equipment and was approved by the NRC's September 27, 1985 letter. The significant proposed changes are in the area of biological monitoring for asiatic clams, sampling and visual inspection, and chlorination and are based on the program experience. Other changes are administrative or editorial in nature. The significant changes in ADM-0053 for ACCP are discussed below.

2.0 DISCUSSION AND EVALUATION

2.1 Biological Monitoring for Asiatic Clams (Section 6.2)

The licensee has deleted the requirements for monitoring the presence or relative abundance of Corbicula in the Mississippi River channel. Monitoring for adult/large juvenile clams will continue in the embayment area where circulating water makeup is withdrawn. The licensee stated that the intent of the monitoring was to determine if there was a meaningful relationship between the method of sampling ambient densities of young clams in the source water and the method of sampling adult/large juvenile clams in the clarifier influent. The licensee indicated that several years of historical data exist for Corbicula in the river water near the site and the relationship of these two sampling locations has been documented since the implementation of the ACCP. The licensee stated that of the two locations, data on young clam densities in the clarifier influent are more relevant than those of the river channel in determining the removal efficiency of the clarifiers. Therefore, monitoring of the river channel

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sampling is no longer needed. Deletion of the river sampling near the site will not decrease the effectiveness of the ACCP as monitoring for clams will continue where circulating water makeup is withdrawn.

The licensee has also deleted the requirement for increasing the sampling frequency of the clarifier effluent for larval/smaller juvenile clams in the event normal service water chlorination is interrupted for more than 48 hours. The licensee stated that when the program was planned, it was expected that the clarifier would remove most of these planktonic clams. Increasing the sampling frequency during chlorine lapses was supposed to provide evidence that the lack of biocide was inconsequential. The licensee stated that, based on the sampling, it is now evident that the clarifier does not remove all these clams. To control these clams, the licensee is increasing the chlorination of the service water system as discussed under the chlorination subsection in this SE. Therefore, increasing the sampling frequency no longer serves a useful purpose.

## 2.2 Sampling and Visual Inspection (Section 6.3)

The licensee has deleted visual inspection of the auxiliary building unit coolers and replaced it with sampling until after refueling outage No. 2. This is due to the welded design of the unit coolers which impedes access for direct visual inspection. The licensee stated that a fiberoptic technique is being tested for visual inspection and necessary modifications for probe access and isolation valve leakage are scheduled for work prior to operation after refueling outage No. 2. The licensee will collect the sample of the sediment from the inlet coil drains and analyze it for evidence of clams and correlate the results between the sample analyses and the visual inspections performed on the other safety-related heat exchangers. This sampling and monthly performance monitoring and trending required in the ACCP provides the redundant assurances that the auxiliary building unit coolers would not unexpectedly fail to serve their safety-related loads due to blockage by Corbicula.

The licensee has also proposed pairing of the unit coolers (2 with 10, 3 with 4, 5 with 7, 6 with 9, and 11A with 11B) for sampling and visual inspection because of similar elevations, flow rates, heat loads, materials and configuration. Each month one cooler from a pair will be sampled/visually inspected via the fiberoptic method such that each pair will be sampled/inspected at least twice per year. This is acceptable.

## 2.3 Chlorination (Section 6.4)

The licensee proposed to increase the chlorination in the normal service water system to at least 0.6 ppm total residual chlorine (TRC) year round and to delete from the ACCP: (a) the present provision that chlorination concentration can be reduced in the service water system from December through March and (b) the upper control limit of 0.8 ppm TRC. The above change for increase in chlorination will prevent the survival of larvae spawned within the circulating water system or entrained in the clarifier effluent, based on the ACCP experience.

The licensee stated that when the ACCP was originally conceived, there was a concern that waste water discharge permit limitation on chlorine in the cooling tower blowdown might not be met if a TRC concentration of 0.6 to 0.8 was used during winter months when evaporative dissipation in the cooling tower was low. It was assumed that the spawning season for Corbicula in the source water occurs during the months of warmer river water temperature. The licensee stated that based on sampling, it is now evident that the above is not entirely true. The licensee has installed a system for injecting a dechlorinating chemical into the blowdown line so that the chlorine discharge permit limitation will be met regardless of the chlorine dosage used. The proposed change will enhance the effectiveness of the ACCP, as use of biocide year round at a concentration of at least 0.6 ppm TRC will prevent survival of any larvae spawned within the circulating water system or the clarifier effluent.

The licensee's October 31, 1988 letter provided additional clarification regarding the addition of the dechlorinating chemical into the cooling tower blowdown. Ammonium bisulfite is the reducing agent that is used by the licensee to react with the TRC. Approximately 5 parts per million of the bisulfite is maintained in the blowdown. The reaction between the TRC and the bisulfite produces mainly sulfate and chloride salts. The concentration of these salts from dechlorination represents a small percentage of these constituents in the blowdown and therefore does not significantly affect the composition of the blowdown. In addition, the licensee stated that with regard to toxicity, the discharge of the ammonium bisulfite and reaction products are not regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency, nor does the State of Louisiana specify water quality standards for dechlorinating agents and their reaction products.

#### 2.4 SUMMARY

Based on the above discussion and evaluation, the staff concludes that the proposed changes in the ACCP for river water sampling and sampling frequency of the clarifier effluent (Section 6.2), for sampling and visual inspection of auxiliary building unit coolers (Section 6.3), and increase in chlorination (Section 6.4) are acceptable since the changes are supported by several years of data and they will not decrease the effectiveness of the ACCP in providing early identification and preventing biofouling of safety related equipment.

With regard to the proposed TS changes, the staff concludes that the deletion of NRC staff approval of the ACCP prior to introduction of river water is acceptable because the staff approved the current ACCP by letter dated September 27, 1985. The staff also concludes that the deletion of monitoring for Corbicula in the Mississippi River and adding the monitoring requirement for Corbicula in the clarifier inlet is acceptable based on the above discussion and evaluation.

#### 3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendment involves a change in the installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. The 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 exposures. 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. Accordingly, the amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR Section 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.

#### 4.0 CONCLUSION

The staff 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, and (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and the issuance of the amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Date: November 16, 1988

Principal Contributors: R. Goel and W. Paulson