

May 6, 2003

Mr. George A. Zinke, Project Manager
Nuclear Business Development
Entergy Nuclear
M-ECH-683
1340 Echelon Parkway
Jackson, MS 39213

Dear Mr. Zinke:

The purpose of this letter is to provide the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) guidance on how security measures should be addressed in Entergy Nuclear's (Entergy) application for an early site permit (ESP) at the Grand Gulf site. This letter also directs you to additional information that may be helpful in addressing this guidance. The additional information is sensitive-unclassified information specified as safeguards information (SGI) in Section 73.21 of Part 73 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR Part 73), "Physical Protection of Plants and Materials." As such, this information is subject to specific handling and protection requirements and has a strict "need to know" limitation. The Commission acknowledges your "need to know" this information in the preparation of your application and the availability of this information through your existing security organization.

In particular, in satisfying Section 100.21(f) of 10 CFR Part 100, "Reactor Site Criteria," Entergy should consider the interim compensatory measures (ICMs) imposed on power reactors by Order dated February 25, 2002, and the design basis threat for reactors which was issued by Order on April 29, 2003. The Commission also intends to determine which, if any, additional security design requirements will be applicable to ESPs.

The application for an ESP should discuss the following characteristics as they relate to implementing a physical security program for the new facility:

1. Physical land, i.e., distance sufficient to implement the criteria of 10 CFR 73.55. Note: given the revised DBT, you should determine whether the distance specified in Regulatory Guide 4.7, "General Site Suitability Criteria for Nuclear Power Stations," Revision 2, April 1998, is sufficient to satisfy the criteria of 10 CFR 73.55.
2. Site characteristics that may require mitigation in order to control close approaches to the facility (e.g., cliffs or open waterways).
3. Nearby facilities reviewed to identify potential hazards in the site vicinity (e.g., other nuclear reactors), as discussed in Review Standard (RS)-002, "Processing Applications for Early Site Permits," Section 2.2.1-2.2.2, "Identification of Potential Hazards in the Site Vicinity."
4. The location of relevant law enforcement agencies, their geographical jurisdictions, and their ability to respond in force to a security event.

G. Zinke

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This letter will be provided to the cognizant NRC staff reviewers for your ESP application in lieu of the near-term development of a section of RS-002 on physical security. In the event that the Commission determines that additional requirements aside from the DBT, as revised, are necessary, the staff will communicate those requirements. If further assistance is necessary, please contact Ronaldo Jenkins at 301 415-2985.

Sincerely,

/RA/

James E. Lyons, Director
New Reactor Licensing Project Office
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No: 720

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Sincerely,

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James E. Lyons, Director
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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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