

April 16, 2003

Mr. George B. Stramback  
General Electric Company  
Project Manager, Regulatory Services  
175 Curtner Avenue  
San Jose, CA 95125

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR WITHHOLDING INFORMATION FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE  
RIVER BEND STATION, UNIT 1 (TAC NO. MB5094)

Dear Mr. Stramback:

By letter dated November 22, 2002, Entergy Operations, Inc., submitted an affidavit dated October 7, 2002, executed by George B. Stramback, and General Electric Company (GE or General Electric) Report NEDC-33051P, Revision 1, "Safety Analysis Report for River Bend Station Thermal Power Optimization," dated October 2002, and requested that it be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Section 2.790.<sup>1</sup> A nonproprietary copy of this document has been placed in the NRC's Public Document Room and added to the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Publicly Available Records System (PARS) Library.

The affidavit stated that the submitted information should be considered exempt from mandatory public disclosure for the following reasons:

- a. Information that discloses a process, method, or apparatus, including supporting data and analyses, where prevention of its use by General Electric's competitors without license from General Electric constitutes a competitive economic advantage over other companies;
- b. Information which, if used by a competitor, would reduce his expenditure of resources or improve his competitive position in the design, manufacture, shipment, installation, assurance of quality, or licensing of a similar product.

We have reviewed your application and the material in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 2.790 and, on the basis of your statements, have determined that the submitted information sought to be withheld contains proprietary commercial information and should be withheld from public disclosure.

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<sup>1</sup> NEDC-33051P, Revision 0, was submitted to the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) on May 14, 2002, along with an application and affidavit from GE, requesting that the report be withheld from public disclosure. By letter dated October 1, 2002, the NRC denied the GE application to withhold NEDC-33051P, Revision 0, from public disclosure. By letter dated November 1, 2002, from GE to the NRC, GE requested that NEDC-33051P, Revision 0, be withdrawn.

G. Stramback

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Therefore, the version of the submitted information marked as proprietary will be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790(b)(5) and Section 103(b) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

Withholding from public inspection shall not affect the right, if any, of persons properly and directly concerned to inspect the documents. If the need arises, we may send copies of this information to our consultants working in this area. We will, of course, ensure that the consultants have signed the appropriate agreements for handling proprietary information.

If the basis for withholding this information from public inspection should change in the future such that the information could then be made available for public inspection, you should promptly notify the NRC. You also should understand that the NRC may have cause to review this determination in the future, for example, if the scope of a Freedom of Information Act request includes your information. In all review situations, if the NRC makes a determination adverse to the above, you will be notified in advance of any public disclosure.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, I may be reached at 301-415-1347.

Sincerely,

***/RA by N. Kalyanam for/***

Michael K. Webb, Project Manager, Section 1  
Project Directorate IV  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-458

cc: See next page

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River Bend Station

cc:

Winston & Strawn  
1400 L Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20005-3502

Manager - Licensing  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
River Bend Station  
P. O. Box 220  
St. Francisville, LA 70775

Senior Resident Inspector  
P. O. Box 1050  
St. Francisville, LA 70775

President of West Feliciana  
Police Jury  
P. O. Box 1921  
St. Francisville, LA 70775

Regional Administrator, Region IV  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000  
Arlington, TX 76011

Ms. H. Anne Plettinger  
3456 Villa Rose Drive  
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

Mr. Michael E. Henry, Administrator  
and State Liaison Officer  
Department of Environmental Quality  
P. O. Box 82135  
Baton Rouge, LA 70884-2135

Wise, Carter, Child & Caraway  
P. O. Box 651  
Jackson, MS 39205

Executive Vice President and  
Chief Operating Officer  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
P. O. Box 31995  
Jackson, MS 39286-1995

General Manager - Plant Operations  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
River Bend Station  
P. O. Box 220  
St. Francisville, LA 70775

Director - Nuclear Safety  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
River Bend Station  
P. O. Box 220  
St. Francisville, LA 70775

Vice President - Operations Support  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
P. O. Box 31995  
Jackson, MS 39286-1995

Attorney General  
State of Louisiana  
P. O. Box 94095  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9095

Brian Almon  
Public Utility Commission  
William B. Travis Building  
P.O. Box 13326  
1701 North Congress Avenue  
Austin, Texas 78701-3326

Mr. Paul D. Hinnenkamp  
Vice President - Operations  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
River Bend Station  
P. O. Box 220  
St. Francisville, LA 70775