



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION IV  
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ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4005**

July 14, 2004

Paul D. Hinnenkamp  
Vice President - Operations  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
River Bend Station  
5485 US Highway 61N  
St. Francisville, LA 70775

**SUBJECT: FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY DEFICIENCY IDENTIFIED  
DURING THE JUNE 9, 2004, EXERCISE**

Dear Mr. Hinnenkamp:

Enclosed is a copy of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Region VI's letter to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Environmental Compliance, dated June 30, 2004. This letter discusses a deficiency identified during evaluation of the June 9, 2004, emergency preparedness exercise at the River Bend Station. Federal Emergency Management Agency defines a deficiency as "an observed or identified inadequacy of organizational performance in an exercise that could cause a finding that offsite emergency preparedness is not adequate to provide reasonable assurance that appropriate measures can be taken in the event of a radiological emergency to protect the health and safety of the public living in the vicinity of a nuclear power plant." Specifically, the deficiency was that the capability of the State of Louisiana to support exception area alerting through use of a state police helicopter was not demonstrated during the exercise.

The purpose of this letter is to communicate FEMA's official notification of the deficiency in accordance with the NRC-FEMA Memorandum of Understanding. No response to the NRC is required.

The NRC encourages River Bend Station to work with the appropriate offsite governmental agencies to ensure a timely resolution of this issue. The NRC will continue to monitor the status of this issue. In accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding, the NRC and FEMA, Region VI, will assess the progress made toward resolution of this issue by approximately August 27, 2004, and will decide at that time if additional measures are necessary.

If this issue is not resolved by October 7, 2004, the FEMA may withdraw the finding of reasonable assurance according to the requirements of 44 CFR 350.13(a). At that time the NRC would take appropriate action according to the requirements of 10 CFR 50.54(s)(2) and 50.54(s)(3).

Paul D. Hinnenkamp

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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Sincerely,

/RA/ GEW for

Anthony T. Gody, Chief  
Operations Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket: 50-458  
License: NPF-47

Attachment:  
FEMA Region VI Letter to Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality,  
dated June 30, 2004 (ADAMS Accession No.: ML041890246)

cc w/attachment:  
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