December 16, 2004

Mr. Joseph E. Venable Vice President Operations Entergy Operations, Inc. 17265 River Road Killona, LA 70066-0751

SUBJECT: WATERFORD STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNIT 3 (WATERFORD 3) -

DRAFT SAFETY EVALUATION FOR THE PROPOSED EXTENDED POWER

UPRATE (TAC MC1355)

Dear Mr. Venable:

By letter dated November 13, 2003, as supplemented by letters dated January 29, March 4, April 15, May 7, May 12, May 13, May 21, May 26, July 14, July 15, July 28, August 10, August 19, August 25, September 1, September 14, October 8 (2), October 13, October 18, October 19, October 21, October 29 (2), November 4, November 8, November 16, and November 19, 2004, Entergy Operations, Inc., (Entergy) requested changes to the Facility Operating License and Technical Specifications (TSs) for Waterford 3.

The proposed amendment would allow an increase the maximum authorized steady-state reactor core power level from 3441 megawatts thermal (MWt) to 3716 MWt, which represents an increase of approximately 8 percent, and the increase is considered an extended power uprate (EPU).

The proposed amendment would change the operating license and certain TSs to provide for implementing uprated power operation.

By letter dated July 15, 2004, and supplemental letters dated August 19 and September 1, 2004, Entergy requested approval of an amendment for Waterford 3 to implement an Alternate Source Term (AST), as permitted by 10 CFR 50.67, for calculating accident offsite doses and doses to control room personnel. The staff is in the process of reviewing the request and expects to complete the review to support the implementation of the EPU amendment. However, the issue of the EPU amendment is contingent on the review and acceptability of the AST request.

Enclosed is a draft safety evaluation (SE) that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has prepared to support the amendment request. The enclosed draft SE is being withheld from public disclosure at this time because it may contain proprietary information.

We are providing this draft SE to you for the purpose of identifying if it contains any proprietary information pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790. Please provide any comments that you may have on the enclosed draft SE with regard to inclusion of proprietary information by December 30, 2004. This target date for your response has been discussed with Dave Bice of your staff. Should a situation occur which prevents you from meeting the date, please contact me.

Sincerely,

/RA/

N. Kalyanam, Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate IV
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-382

Enclosure: Draft SE

cc w/o encl: See next page

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/RA/

N. Kalyanam, Project Manager, Section 1 Project Directorate IV Division of Licensing Project Management Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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cc w/o encl: See next page

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Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3

CC:

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