



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
612 EAST LAMAR BLVD, SUITE 400
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4125

September 5, 2008

Kevin Walsh, Vice President, Operations
Entergy Operations, Inc.
Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3
17265 River Road
Killona, LA 70057-3093

SUBJECT: WATERFORD STEAM ELECTRIC STATION - FOLLOW-UP LETTER
REGARDING RESTART

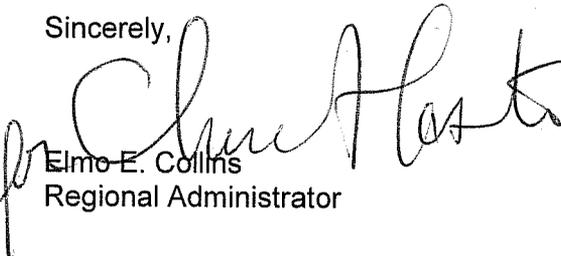
Dear Mr. Walsh:

Waterford Steam Electric Station was shutdown on August 31, 2008, in response to the effects of the passage of Hurricane Gustav on the local electric power grid. Following the hurricane, the NRC requested that Entergy Operations, Inc. not restart its Waterford Steam Electric Station facility until a review of the emergency response infrastructure was performed. The purpose of the review was to provide reasonable assurance that adequate emergency preparedness processes and facilities were available to support plant restart and operation. You agreed not to restart Waterford Steam Electric Station until satisfactory completion of the review.

On September 4, 2008, representatives of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) commenced a disaster initiated review of the status of the offsite emergency preparedness infrastructure surrounding the Waterford Steam Electric Station site. This review was completed on September 4, 2008, and the results of this review were documented in a letter from FEMA to the NRC dated September 4, 2008. A copy of that letter is enclosed. During that same period, NRC inspectors also conducted an assessment of the general condition of the onsite emergency preparedness status in accordance with NRC Inspection Manual Chapter 1601, "Communication and Coordination Protocol for Determining the Status of Offsite Emergency Preparedness Following a Natural Disaster, Malevolent Act, or Extended Plant Shutdown." These assessments concluded that the emergency preparedness infrastructure, both onsite and offsite, was adequate to support plant restart and provide reasonable assurance that protective measures can be taken to protect public health and safety in the event of a radiological emergency. The results of the NRC assessment will be documented in a future inspection report. In a conference call conducted on September 5, 2008, between your staff and the NRC, Entergy Operations, Inc. provided its basis for assurance that Waterford Steam Electric Station could resume safe operation. We also understand that you were taking appropriate steps to monitor grid conditions during plant startup to ensure that stable offsite power is available to support full power plant operation. Based on your affirmative statements related to readiness to resume safe operation of Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3, as well as the satisfactory independent reviews discussed above, this letter documents our authorization for Entergy to resume operation of the Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3. This authorization was granted via a telephone call on September 5, 2008.

Should you have any questions regarding this letter, or if there are any adverse changes in the status of the emergency preparedness infrastructure addressed in our reviews, please contact us.

Sincerely,


Elmo E. Collins
Regional Administrator

Docket: 50-382
License: NPF-38

Enclosure: As stated

cc:

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-3-

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SUNSI Review Completed: WCW ADAMS: Yes No Initials: WCW
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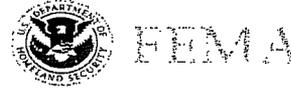
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T=Telephone

E=E-mail

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SEP 14 2008



Melvyn Leach
Director, Division of Preparedness and Response
Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop T4D22A
Washington, D.C. 20555

RE: Waterford 3 Steam Electric Station Re-Start and Reasonable Assurance

Dear Mr. Leach:

This letter is to inform you that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has completed its disaster initiated review (DIR) of the State of Louisiana and local offsite response organizations continued capability to adequately respond to an incident at the Waterford-3 Steam Electric Station in the aftermath of Hurricane Gustav.

On September 4, 2008, a comprehensive investigation and collection of field data was performed by the joint FEMA/Nuclear Regulatory Commission DIR Team, in accordance with FEMA's "Post-Natural Disaster Assessment of Offsite Preparedness Capabilities" procedure. In addition to the field observations, the Team conducted interviews with the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, St. Charles Parish, St. John the Baptist Parish, Waterford-3 Emergency Planning, and Entergy personnel.

Based on our review of all of this information, FEMA concludes that offsite radiological emergency preparedness is adequate to provide reasonable assurance that appropriate measures can be taken to protect the health and safety of the public in the event of a radiological emergency at the Waterford-3 Steam Electric Station. At this time, FEMA is not aware of any unresolved offsite emergency preparedness issues around Waterford-3, and therefore, we have no objections to plant startup and full-power operations.

Please find enclosed a copy of the FEMA Region VI DIR Report for the Waterford-3 Steam Electric Station for your information. Please contact me at (202)212-2205, if you have any questions or require any further assistance on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Kish", is written over the typed name. The signature is fluid and cursive.

James Kish
Director

Technological Hazards Branch

Enclosure



FEMA

September 4, 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR: Jim Kish, Director
Technological Hazards Division

FROM: *Bob Hendrix*
Bob Hendrix, Federal Preparedness Coordinator
FEMA Region VI

THROUGH: Vanessa Quinn, Branch Chief
Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP)

SUBJECT: Disaster Initiated Review – Waterford 3

Background:

On September 1, 2008, Hurricane Gustav affected Waterford 3 Steam Electric Station. Waterford 3 was shutdown on August 31, 2008, prior to landfall because of projected hurricane force winds. The hurricane impacted St. Charles Parish and St. John the Baptist Parish. St. Charles Parish and St. John the Baptist Parish are the two risk parishes for Waterford 3.

On Thursday, September 4, 2008, FEMA Region VI, REP Program staff conducted reviews for Post-Disaster Assessment of Off-Site Capabilities. The review team was comprised of the Regional State Liaison Officer (Bill Maier) from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission Region IV, Timothy Pflieger from the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, and staff members from the FEMA Region VI REP Program.

Assessment:

1. Emergency Response Facilities

The emergency response facilities are operational and staffed with essential personnel.

Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality

- No issues identified.

St. John the Baptist Parish

- Facility running on back-up power, two generators which are capable of running for 5 days. Diesel is checked daily and topped off.

- St. Charles Parish
- No issues identified.

2. Communications

Communications were found to be adequate. Notification lines are working.

Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality

- Pagers, internet access, commercial and cellular telephones are working intermittently.
- The LDEQ main number, internet and utility hotline has been transferred to the LAB for support.

St. John the Baptist Parish

- Internet access and cellular telephones service is intermittent.

St. Charles Parish

- Commercial and internet access service is intermittent.

3. Emergency Response Organizations

Emergency response organizations are sufficient to support an emergency and additional security personnel have been assigned to support the parishes.

Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality

- No issues identified.

St. John the Baptist Parish

- No issues identified.

St. Charles Parish

- No issues identified.

4. Public Alert and Notification

The Public Alert and Notification system is functional. All 72 sirens are operational and on battery power; a battery change-out schedule has also been implemented. The Emergency News Center is operating on primary power.

Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality

- No issues identified.

St. John the Baptist Parish

- 99% of the population is without power and restoration is in progress.

St. Charles Parish

- 90% of population is without power and restoration is in progress.

5. Special Needs and Transportation Resources

Schools are not open; power has been restored to hospitals and they are open for business. There are sufficient transportation resources available for support.

Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality

- No issues identified.

St. John the Baptist Parish

- All schools are closed.
- Power was restored to the River Parishes Hospital and it is open for business.

St. Charles Parish

- All schools are closed.

6. Evacuation Routes

All evacuation routes in the EPZ are open and accessible.

Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality

- No issues identified.

St. John the Baptist Parish

- No issues identified.

St. Charles Parish

- No issues identified.

7. Accident Assessment

Adequate staff is in place to conduct accident assessment if necessary.

Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality

- No issues identified.

St. John the Baptist Parish

- Not applicable.

St. Charles Parish

- Not applicable.

8. Support Services

One reception center (at Central Lafourche High School) and one emergency worker decontamination center (at Lafourche Fire Protection District) are not available for support. Alternate back-up facilities with trained staff are available (at the Alario Center for reception and care and at the Kenner Fire Station for emergency worker decontamination). Sufficient equipment and trained staff are available to operate these facilities.

Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality

- No issues identified.

St. John the Baptist Parish

- No issues identified.

St. Charles Parish

- No issues identified.

Catastrophic Impact:

The impact of Hurricane Gustav with respect to Waterford 3 Steam Electric Station was not catastrophic.

Supporting Documentation:

All supporting documentation gathered by the Review Team will be maintained on file at FEMA Region VI.

Conclusions:

Based on the results of the review it has been determined that the REP plans for Waterford 3 can be implemented to protect the health and safety of the general public. Therefore, 44 CFR Part 350 approval of the offsite radiological emergency response plans and preparedness for the State of Louisiana site-specific to Waterford 3 Steam Electric Station will remain in effect.