

December 24, 2008

Mr. Jerry Burford
Manager, RBS COLA Project
Entergy Nuclear
1340 Echelon Parkway
Jackson, MS 39213

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF INTENT TO PREPARE AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
STATEMENT AND CONDUCT SCOPING RELATED TO A COMBINED
LICENSE APPLICATION FOR RIVER BEND STATION, UNIT 3

Dear Mr. Burford:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received an application on September 25, 2008, from Entergy Operations, Inc. (EOI) for a combined license (COL) for the River Bend Station (RBS) Unit 3. In support of the COL application and in accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR)*, Parts 51 and 52, EOI submitted an environmental report (ER).

The NRC has prepared a notice of intent (NOI) that advises the public that the NRC intends to gather information necessary to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) in support of the review of the RBS Unit 3 COL application. Enclosed is a copy of the NOI which has been forwarded to the Office of the *Federal Register* for publication.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.28, EOI is invited to participate in the environmental scoping process. As discussed in the enclosed notice, the NRC is providing the public with the opportunity to participate in the environmental scoping meeting to be held Thursday, January 29, 2009. The meeting will convene at 7:00 p.m., and will continue until approximately 10:00 p.m. The NRC will present an overview of the environmental review process and will describe how the process will be implemented for the review of the RBS Unit 3 COL application. The meeting will be held at the West Feliciana Parish High School Auditorium, 8604 US Highway 61, St. Francisville, Louisiana, 70775. A separate NRC meeting notice with a more detailed agenda will be forthcoming.

Additionally, NRC staff and contractors plan to be on-site February 17 - 20, 2009, for a site audit to discuss the preparation of the ER with members of your staff, to perform a walk down of the site and its environs, meet with other resource agencies, and to review documentation.

J. Burford

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Additional details regarding the site audit will be provided to your staff before the visit. In the interim, should you have any questions regarding the scoping meetings or the environmental review, please contact Mr. Andrew Kugler, NRC Environmental Project Manager at (301) 415-2828 or via e-mail at Andrew.Kugler @nrc.gov or Ms. Jessie M. Muir, at (301) 415-0491 or via email at Jessie.Muir@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Scott C. Flanders, Director
Division of Site and Environmental Reviews
Office of New Reactors

Docket Nos.: 52-036

Enclosure: As stated.

cc w/Enclosure: see next page

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