



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

August 9, 2011

Vice President, Operations
Entergy Operations, Inc.
River Bend Station
5485 U.S. Highway 61N
St. Francisville, LA 70775

SUBJECT: ENTERGY GULF STATES LOUISIANA, LLC'S STATUS OF
DECOMMISSIONING FUNDING ASSURANCE FOR RIVER BEND STATION,
UNIT 1 (70 PERCENT REGULATED) (TAC NO. ME5526)

Dear Sir or Madam:

By letter dated March 31, 2011 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML110940138), Entergy Operations, Inc. (the licensee), submitted the biennial decommissioning funding report for River Bend Station (RBS) for both the regulated portion of the unit (70 percent) and the unregulated portion of the unit (30 percent).

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has concluded that the 30 percent non-regulated portion of RBS meets the required minimum funding criteria of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 50.75(b) and (c) based on the current funding level of the decommissioning trust fund, length of time remaining on the license, and expected earnings on the trust fund balance.

The NRC staff has concluded that the 70 percent rate-regulated portion of RBS meets the required minimum funding criteria of 10 CFR 50.75(b) and (c) based on its current funding level, length of time remaining on the license, expected earnings on the trust fund, and future collections to the trust fund from the Louisiana Public Service Commission (LPSC) and the Public Utilities Commission of Texas (PUCT). For the regulated portion of RBS (70 percent), the licensee submitted orders from the LPSC and PUCT approving decommissioning trust fund collections through 2034 for RBS.

The NRC has concluded that RBS is on track to have sufficient funds for decommissioning at the time of permanent termination of operations is expected. As such, we consider our review of the decommissioning funding report complete with the issuance this letter.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement

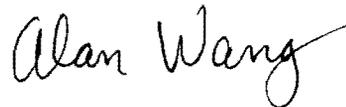
This letter does not contain any new or amended information collection requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). Existing collection requirements under 10 CFR Part 50 were approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), control number 3150-0011, which expires August 31, 2013.

Public Protection Notification

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If you have any questions regarding this review, please contact me at alan.wang@nrc.gov or (301) 415-1445.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alan Wang". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Alan B. Wang, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch IV
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-458

cc: Distribution via Listserv

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Sincerely,

/RA/

Alan B. Wang, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch IV
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-458

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