



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

November 28, 2011

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

SUBJECT: RIVER BEND STATION – REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
REGARDING 60-DAY RESPONSE TO BULLETIN 2011-01, "MITIGATING
STRATEGIES" (TAC NO. ME6475)

Dear Sir or Madam:

On May 11, 2011, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued Bulletin 2011-01, "Mitigating Strategies" (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML111250360), to all holders of operating licenses for nuclear power reactors, except those that have permanently ceased operation and have certified that fuel has been removed from the reactor vessel. The purpose of the bulletin was to obtain a comprehensive verification that licensees' mitigating strategies to maintain or restore core cooling, spent fuel cooling, and containment following a large explosion or fire were compliant with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Section 50.54(hh)(2). The bulletin requested information on licensee 10 CFR 50.54(hh)(2) mitigating strategies in light of the recent events at Japan's Fukushima Daiichi facility to determine if (1) additional assessment of program implementation is needed, (2) the current inspection program should be enhanced, or (3) further regulatory action is warranted.

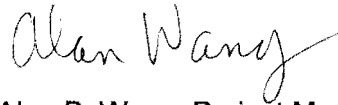
The bulletin required two sets of responses pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 50.54(f). The first responses were due 30 days after issuance of the bulletin. By letter dated June 9, 2011 (ADAMS Accession No. ML11165A093), Entergy Operations, Inc. (Entergy, the licensee), provided a response to the first set of questions for River Bend Station. The second responses were due 60 days after issuance of the bulletin. By letter dated July 11, 2011, Entergy responded to this second set of questions. The letter dated July 11, 2011, contains sensitive unclassified non-safeguards information and, accordingly, is withheld from public disclosure.

The NRC staff has reviewed the information provided in Entergy's letters dated June 9 and July 11, 2011, and determined that additional information is needed for the NRC to complete its review of the 60-day response to the bulletin. Please respond to the enclosed request for additional information within 30 days of the date of this letter.

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If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at (301) 415-1445 or via e-mail at Alan.Wang@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alan Wang".

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

Docket No. 50-458

Enclosure:
Request for Additional Information

cc w/encl: Distribution via Listserv

NRC BULLETIN 2011-01, "MITIGATING STRATEGIES"

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ENTERGY OPERATIONS, INC.

RIVER BEND STATION, UNIT 1

DOCKET NO. 50-458

On May 11, 2011, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued Bulletin 2011-01, "Mitigating Strategies" (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML111250360), to all holders of operating licenses for nuclear power reactors, except those that have permanently ceased operation and have certified that fuel has been removed from the reactor vessel. The purpose of the bulletin was to obtain a comprehensive verification that licensees' mitigating strategies to maintain or restore core cooling, spent fuel cooling, and containment following a large explosion or fire were compliant with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Section 50.54(hh)(2).

The bulletin required two sets of responses pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 50.54(f). The first responses were due 30 days after issuance of the bulletin. By letter dated June 9, 2011 (ADAMS Accession No. ML11165A093), Entergy Operations, Inc. (Entergy, the licensee), provided a response to the first set of questions for River Bend Station. The second responses were due 60 days after issuance of the bulletin. By letter dated July 11, 2011, Entergy responded to this second set of questions. The letter dated July 11, 2011, contains sensitive unclassified non-safeguards information and, accordingly, is withheld from public disclosure.

The NRC staff has reviewed the information provided in Entergy's letters dated June 9 and July 11, 2011, and determined that additional information is needed for the NRC to complete its review of the 60-day response to the bulletin.

1. Please describe in detail the maintenance or testing of monitor nozzles, spray nozzles, or similar devices to ensure that they will be functional when needed.

The bulletin requested that each licensee describe in detail the maintenance and testing on equipment procured to support the mitigating strategies to ensure that it will be functional when needed. In the context of the mitigating strategies, these devices are commonly used for firefighting, spent fuel pool spray strategies, and as a means to reduce the magnitude of fission product releases.

2. Please describe in detail how the licensee ensures there is sufficient fuel for the pumping source when needed.

The bulletin requested that each licensee describe in detail the maintenance of equipment supporting the mitigating strategies to ensure that it will be functional when needed.

Enclosure

3. Please identify the minimum inventory frequency for equipment needed for the mitigating strategies not specifically identified in response to the bulletin. Alternatively, please describe the inventory frequency for firefighter turnout gear needed to support the mitigating strategies.

The bulletin requested that each licensee describe in detail the controls for ensuring equipment supporting the mitigating strategies will be available when needed. Firefighter turnout gear, tools, and instruments are generally needed to implement the mitigating strategies. The NRC staff found that tools and instruments are specifically listed in the licensee's response, but firefighter turnout gear was not listed.

4. Please describe in detail how the licensee ensures the availability of Grand Gulf and Waterford nuclear plants to provide offsite support in response to a B.5.b event.

The bulletin requested that each licensee describe in detail how it ensures the availability of offsite support, including a listing of offsite organization relied upon for emergency response. The safety evaluation documenting the NRC's review of the licensee's response to Section B.5.b of the Interim Compensatory Measures Order (EA-02-026) relied upon agreements Entergy had with Grand Gulf and Waterford nuclear plants to provide support to respond to a B.5.b event. These agreements were not listed in the licensee's response to Question 5 of the bulletin.

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If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at (301) 415-1445 or via e-mail at Alan.Wang@nrc.gov.

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

Enclosure:
Request for Additional Information

cc w/encl: Distribution via Listserv

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ADAMS Accession No. ML113210384

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DATE	11/23/11	11/28/11	11/28/11

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