



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

PDR

FEB 21 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR: Lyman W. Heller, Acting Chief  
Geosciences Branch, DSE

FROM: Owen Thompson, Geotechnical Engineer  
Geotechnical Engineering Section  
Geosciences Branch, DSE

SUBJECT: SITE VISIT

PLANT NAME: Grand Gulf 1 & 2  
LICENSING STAGE: OL  
MILESTONE NUMBER: 01-61  
DOCKET NUMBER: 50-416/417  
RESPONSIBLE BRANCH: LWR-1, C. Thomas, LPM

On February 1, 1979 I visited the Grand Gulf plant site. The attendance list is enclosed.

After an introduction by MP&L representatives we were conducted on a site tour. We saw some of the monitor wells at the site. The water levels reportedly have been as expected except in Monitor Well MW-4 on the west side of the Standby Service Water Cooling Basin. The applicant indicated that the high water readings were caused by drainage from the Cooling Basin roof and drainage from the ground surface in the immediate vicinity of the well. The ground surface (top of backfill against the Cooling Basin) has not been sealed with the clay layer. Furthermore, the ground near Monitor Well MW-4 is slightly lower than surrounding areas. The applicant stated that he would fix the problems immediately. We understood that the fix would be completed within a few weeks. The applicant was informed that the staff would need a complete report on the cause of the anomalous water readings and the correction of any problems.

The transformer foundation excavations on the east side of the power block area were inspected. The low part of the excavation contained a few feet depth of mud and water, but the Catahoula formation was visible on the sides of the excavation, below the sheet piling. We inspected the two embankments and culverts along the access road.

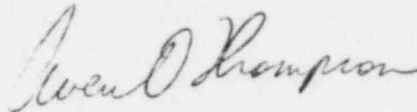
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The applicant indicated that complete construction inspection reports may be available in case the stability of these embankments should become a safety issue as the result of the hydrologic review.

We inspected some of the boring samples. All samples are stored at the site in an unheated trailer. We also saw the borrow pits for backfill material. The pits were filled with water at the time of our visit and, reportedly, also during the construction. The backfill material was excavated by dragline.

The round one geotechnical engineering questions presented in a memo from J. Carl Stepp, DSE to John Stolz, DPM, dated January 11, 1979, were discussed. The applicant did not indicate any problem with the questions.



Owen O. Thompson, Geotechnical Engineer  
Geotechnical Engineering Section  
Geosciences Branch  
Division of Site Safety and  
Environmental Analysis

Enclosure:  
As stated

cc: w/enclosure  
R. Denise  
L. Hulman  
R. Jackson  
E. Markee  
W. Bivins  
A. Cardone  
P. Sobel  
T. Johnson  
C. Thomas  
O. Thompson  
PDR

ATTENDANCE  
2/1/79

NP&L

Felix Killar  
Emily Chumley  
Warren Guider  
Wes Garner

BECHTEL

R. Beck  
Adnan Alsuffar  
Mike Sholley  
Jack Blanke  
James P. Lonergan  
A. Sanver  
M. L. Rayfield  
T. Boarman

NRC

T. L. Johnson  
Owen Thompson  
A. T. Cardone  
John Rausch