



MISSISSIPPI POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

Helping Build Mississippi

P. O. BOX 1640, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39205

August 9, 1980

NUCLEAR PRODUCTION DEPARTMENT

Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Denton:

SUBJECT: Grand Gulf Nuclear Station
Units 1 and 2
File 0260/15521/L-860.0
MP&L Comments Re NUREG/CR-1280
AECM-80/186

A notice was published in the April 24, 1980 Federal Register stating that the NRC had commissioned a study drawing comparisons between Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program practices and civilian nuclear power practices. Comments were requested on this document, and we understand the comment period was later extended to August 9, 1980.

While the comparisons and recommendations drawn from the comparisons in the report are interesting and may have some merit, we feel the differences between Naval plants and civilian plants are so great because of scale and regulatory and management practices that no sweeping conclusions can be made. Naval methods may provide some solutions to specific problem areas, but under no circumstances are they appropriate to generally redirect civilian nuclear power. Rather we suggest that in reassessing personnel selection, training, and licensing you look to the efforts of the nuclear industry. Since TMI, the civilian nuclear power industry has critically reevaluated itself and is drafting stringent standards for nuclear power plant operation and management. These efforts are being conducted by various owner's groups, standards writing groups, and industry funded organizations such as INPO. Naval experience is being factored into these efforts. Mississippi Power and Light Company is participating in this work and endorses it.

Yours truly,

L. F. Dale
Nuclear Project Manager

CLT/JDR/LFD:lm

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AECM-80/186
Page 2

cc: Mr. N. L. Stampley
Mr. R. B. McGehee
Mr. T. B. Conner

Mr. Victor Stello, Jr., Director
Division of Inspection & Enforcement
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555