



**GULF STATES UTILITIES COMPANY**

RIVER BEND STATION

November 15, 1988

RBG- 29359

File No. G10.12

Mr. Dennis Strickland  
Underground Storage Tank Division  
Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality  
Post Office Box 44272, Capitol Station  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

Dear Mr. Strickland:

This is to document our report of a leak of an unknown, but apparently small, quantity of waste oil from piping associated with buried tanks at the vehicle maintenance shop located on Gulf States Utilities Company's (GSU) River Bend Station property in West Feliciana Parish. The leak was initially reported by telephone at 2:00 p.m. on November 11, 1988, and discussed with you at 8:15 p.m. on November 14, 1988, by our John V. Conner.

The leak was discovered on November 11 during exploratory digging to determine the size and configuration of an underground storage tank (UST) system. Whereas these tanks had been described as two 500-gallon steel vessels (Tank Nos. WMS1 and WMS2) in a registration form filed on May 5, 1986, questions had arisen as to the accuracy of the information. As noted in our telephone conversation, GSU is considering removing this UST from service, and we were attempting to develop information for amending the registration.

At your suggestion, we propose to continue excavation, sampling at intervals to determine the extent of soil contamination. Preliminary indications are that the waste oil has only spread along the underside of drain piping from the maintenance shop sump and has nowhere penetrated the soil beyond a few inches. The groundwater table is approximately 40 feet below the UST system and it is therefore very unlikely to have been affected. For purposes of this investigation, we propose to analyze the soil samples for total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPHC) and solvents (BTEX).

We understand that we are to wait for approval from you before continuing the investigation. Once the investigation is complete, we will provide a full description of the results. If you have any questions, please contact James W. Cook at (504) 381-4151.

Sincerely,

*J. E. Booker*

J. E. Booker  
Manager-River Bend Oversight  
River Bend Nuclear Group

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