



**LOUISIANA
POWER & LIGHT**

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J. M. WYATT
*President and
Chief Executive Officer*

January 19, 1981

LPL 15296
3-A1.10

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

Subject: Waterford 3 SES
Docket No. 50-382

Reference: J. M. Wyatt's letter to H. R. Denton dated November 3, 1980
NRC's letter to LP&L dated December 5, 1980

Dear Mr. Denton:

The NRC's Case Load Forecast Panel meeting at Waterford 3 from January 13 through January 15, 1981 has concluded that Waterford 3's Fuel Load date of October, 1982, presently projected by both LP&L and the NRC is attainable. The Panel reached its conclusion after three full days of thorough analysis and evaluation of the progress of construction at Waterford 3 and the ability of LP&L to support continued construction progress and start-up.

Our own evaluation continues to indicate to us that the licensing of the plant is the critical path to operation. We remain convinced that it will take the best efforts of both LP&L and the NRC to complete the licensing effort by October, 1982 on the schedule provided to us by the NRC in its letter of December 5, 1980. Slippage in any of the licensing milestones can be expected to result in a day for day slippage in initial plant operation.

The first and maybe the most important licensing milestone is issuance by the Staff of its SER, now scheduled for July, 1981. This date is already in jeopardy and will require conscientious involvement by both the NRC and LP&L personnel to insure it is preserved.

Miss Suzanne Keblusek was appointed NRC Project Manager for Waterford 3 just a few weeks ago. Her performance and accomplishments to date have been most

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Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director
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impressive. As examples of her accomplishments, Miss Keblusek has scheduled a highly important meeting of LP&L, as Applicant, and the NRC I&C and Power System Branches. The purpose of this meeting is to accelerate the reviews on the part of these Branches, which are behind schedule. Miss Keblusek has also gotten underway a financial review. This review had been scheduled for the Supplement to the SER but is required in the SER consistent with hearing considerations in the Waterford 3 proceeding. Miss Keblusek is also attempting to arrange a review meeting with the Structural Engineering Branch and the Fire Protection Group. Accelerated reviews in these areas also appear to be critical to the licensing effort.

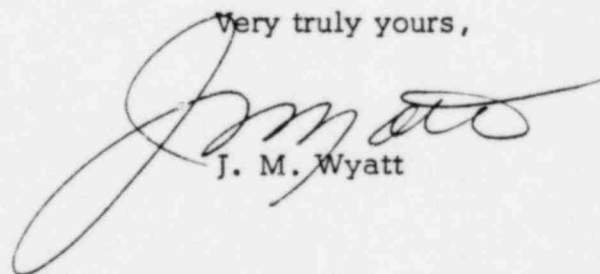
As indicated in my letter to you dated November 3, 1980, a copy of which is attached, LP&L strongly advocates the status report approach adopted by the Mechanical Engineering Branch in our review. It appears that an identical or similar approach will be required to recover schedule slippages in the critical areas indicated above. I request your personal support of this suggestion.

I wish to assure you that LP&L will do its part to meet the licensing schedule. We are also confident that Miss Keblusek will hold up her part of the effort. Your active support of Miss Keblusek will be most appreciated.

In the meantime, I would very much appreciate the opportunity of discussing this situation with you, Mr. Denton, and I will be available at your convenience to do so.

I am looking forward to hearing from you.

Very truly yours,



J. M. Wyatt

JMW:JP
attachment

cc: Messrs. E. Blake
W. M. Stevenson
Senator R. B. Long
Senator J. B. Johnston
Congressman J. B. Breaux
Congressman J. Huckaby
Congressman G. W. Long

Congresswoman C. C. Boggs
Congressman W. H. Moore
Congressman R. L. Livingston
Congressman J. B. Tauzin
Congressman B. Roemer



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November 3, 1980

J. M. WYATT
President and
Chief Executive Officer

LPL 15296
3-A1.10

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Washington, D. C. 20555

ATTENTION: Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director

SUBJECT: Waterford 3 SES
Docket No. 50-382
SER Status Report Approach To Licensing

REFERENCE: NRC letter to LP&L dated September 4, 1980

Dear Mr. Denton:

During the week of September 29, 1980, Louisiana Power & Light Company (LP&L) participated in an innovative approach to the review of Sub-section 3.6.2 through 3.9.6 of the Final Safety Analysis Report.

As described in the referenced letter, NRC's Mechanical Engineering Branch (MEB) and its contractor, Oak Ridge National Laboratories, chose to proceed directly to a safety evaluation status report rather than provide the customary two rounds of questions. We met with members of the staff and consulting reviewers in New York to discuss and resolve the open items identified in the status report. The majority of these open items were satisfactorily resolved at our meeting. LP&L will document resolutions to nearly all open items in November and December FSAR amendments.

We endorse this method of licensing review and encourage its continued use. Regarding our meeting we have the following comments:

- (1) The status report approach exhibits several advantages over the formal question and response method. Direct communication between both of our engineering staffs reduces misunderstanding, provides sufficiently detailed responses including the inspection of calculations and detailed drawings, and provides justification for and better understanding of positions and criteria.

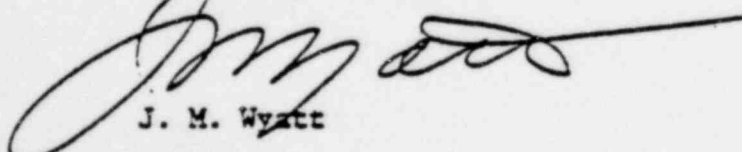
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- (2) Better understanding will result in fewer open SER issues when we proceed to ACRS in July, 1981. Fewer open items will permit us both to concentrate our resources more efficiently on the few remaining open items.
- (3) There is a significant time saving factor. MEB will be able to have their final draft SER completed several months ahead of schedule.
- (4) As compared to the formal question and response approach, we estimate a savings on our part of approximately 400 work-hours in the MEB areas due to the status report approach. We presume that MEB also saved on work-hours needed to obtain information required for their safety review and comparisons with the Standard Review Plans.
- (5) We sincerely appreciate the fact that your staff and consultants worked well beyond the normal workday in order to finish the meeting in 3½ days as compared to the 5 days projected in the referenced letter.
- (6) An appreciable gain in the efficiency of the meeting would have been realized had we provided draft resolutions to all parties a week or so in advance of the meeting. We will do this for all such future meetings.
- (7) As experience is gained, certain minor logistic problems such as agenda flexibility, new open items, review of meeting minutes, and the extent and method of resolution documentation will be improved.

We believe that the status report approach is needed in other areas in order to support the June 1, 1981 issuance of the Safety Evaluation Report. Therefore, we would welcome similar meetings in Bethesda, New Orleans or New York for the remaining areas of FSAR review especially in areas where we have not yet received round 1 questions.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Mr. Lee V. Maurin, Waterford 3 Project Director.

Yours very truly,



J. M. Wyatt

JMW:RWP:bms

cc: E. Blake
W. M. Stevenson

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