

RIVER BEND STATION POST OFFICE BOX 220 ST FRANCISVILLE LOUISIANA 70776

AREA CODE 504 635-6094 346 8661

October 27, 1989 RBG- 31698 File Nos. 69.5, 69.25.1.4

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Document Control Desk Washington, D.C. 20555

Gentlemen:

River Bend Station - Unit 1 Docket No. 50-458

Please find enclosed Gulf States Utilities' Informational Report regarding personnel entry into a very high radiation area at River Bend Station - Unit 1. This report is being submitted to provide information regarding circumstances surrounding the event.

Sincerely.

J. E. Booker

Manager-River Bend Oversight River Bend Nuclear Group

/TFP/RGW/LAE JHM/CLF/ch

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INFORMATIONAL REPORT

SUMMARY

On September 28, 1989 at approximately 1510 with the unit at full power in Operational Condition 1, upon the completion of performing a quarterly surveillance on the reactor core isolation cooling system (RCIC), a field engineer made an emergency exit from a high radiation area through a very high radiation area door.

REPORTED CONDITION

At approximately 1430 on September 28, 1989, a field engineer and two maintenance personnel entered the reactor core isolation cooling (RCIC) system cubicle via door AB78-01, posted as a nigh radiation area. All requirements of Technical Specification 6.12.1 were met. Upon completion of the surveillance, the work party attempted to exit via this same door (AB78-01). The thumb latch designed to allow exit of the area failed, preventing the door from opening. Since no communications (i.e., telephone or gaitronics) were available on the lower elevations of the RCIC cubicle, at approximately 1510 the field engineer went up the stairway, crossed the barricade and flashing red light to the upper elevation (95') and exited via the locked & posted very high radiation area door AB95-04. The radiation work permit did not depict the dose rates for this pathway. The field engineer then went back to Ab78-01, used the key and opened the door, allowing the two maintenance personnel to exit the work area.

Total exposure received by the field engineer was 10 mR according to his pocket dosimeter. Highest exposure received by the maintenance personnel was also 10 mR according to their pocket dosimeters.

Since door AB78-01 is in a posted high radiation area and is not required to be locked, the lock has been defeated.