



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV

611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400  
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-8064

APR 12 1993

Docket: 50-458  
License: NPF-47

Gulf States Utilities  
ATTN: P. D. Graham  
Vice President (RBNG)  
P.O. Box 220  
St. Francisville, Louisiana 70775

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-458/93-11

This refers to the special inspection conducted by Messrs. W. F. Smith and D. P. Loveless of this office on February 25 through March 30, 1993. The inspection involved a review of the circumstances and events leading up to a breach of containment that occurred on February 25, 1993, when the upper containment airlock door interlock failed to perform its intended safety function, which was to prevent one door from opening while the other door was not fully closed. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report.

Areas examined during the inspection are identified in the report. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examination of procedures and representative records, inspections of installed equipment, and interviews with personnel.

Based on the results of this inspection, three apparent violations were identified. The first violation is of concern because your staff failed to identify a change to the facility as described in the Updated Safety Analysis Report that constituted an unreviewed safety question. The second violation is of concern because the plant was operated for over two years in a condition prohibited by the Technical Specifications. We understand that you have maintained a position that the containment airlock door electrical interlocks were not an integral part of the interlocks required by the plant Technical Specifications, but have administratively taken the actions required when the interlocks are inoperable until the issue is resolved. The third violation is of concern because the surveillance test procedure implementing Technical Specification surveillance requirements was inadequate.

An enforcement conference to discuss these apparent violations has been scheduled for April 21, 1993, at 10 a.m. This enforcement conference will be open to public observation in accordance with the Commission's trial program as discussed in the enclosed Federal Register notice (Enclosure 2). The purposes of this conference are to discuss the apparent violations, their causes and safety significance; to provide you the opportunity to point out any errors in our inspection report; to provide an opportunity for you to present your proposed corrective actions; and to discuss any other information

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that will help us determine the appropriate enforcement action in accordance with the Enforcement Policy. In particular, we expect you to address your efforts to determine if other 10 CFR Part 50.59 evaluations performed under the old Part 50.59 program (prior to the time of the programs revision) are subject to errors such as the one cited in this report. Your corrective actions should also address your efforts to assure that surveillance test procedures will be periodically reviewed and evaluated to assure that the requirements of the Technical Specifications are verified to be included under the surveillance programs. You will be advised by separate correspondence of the results of our deliberations on this matter. No response regarding these apparent violations is required at this time.

In accordance with 10 CFR Part 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Should you have any questions concerning this inspection, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,

  
A. Bill Beach, Director  
Division of Reactor Projects

Enclosures:

1. Appendix - NRC Inspection Report  
50-458/93-11
2. Federal Register Notice

cc w/enclosures:

Gulf States Utilities  
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Nuclear Industry Relations  
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Beaumont, Texas 77704

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Gulf States Utilities  
ATTN: Les England, Director  
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bcc to DMB (IE01)

bcc distrib. by RIV:

J. L. Milhoan

DRP

Lisa Shea, RM/ALF, MS: MNBB 4503

DRSS-FIPS

RIV File

DRS

Senior Resident Inspector, Cooper

A. Bill Beach, D/DRP

Resident Inspector

Section Chief (DRP/C)

MIS System

RSTS Operator

Section Chief (DRP/TSS)

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WFSmith  
4/1/93

\*PE:DRP/C  
EECollins  
4/2/93

\*C:DRP/C  
JEGagliardo  
4/2/93

~~DD:DRS  
ATHwell  
4/1/93~~

~~D:DRP  
ABBeach  
4/12/93~~

\*previously concurred

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P.O. Box 15540  
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Radiation Protection Division  
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