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June 2, 1982

JAMES P. McGAUGHY, JR. ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT

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

Attention: Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director

Dear Mr. Denton:

SUBJECT: Grand Gulf Nuclear Station

Units 1 and 2

Docket Nos. 50-416 and 50-417

File: 260/L-860.0

Plant Management Personnel Changes

AECM-82/245

This letter is to inform you of certain changes in the plant management structure at the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station. These changes have been precipitated by the resignation of Mr. C. L. Stuart from his position as Assistant Plant Manager. We have responded to this vacancy expeditiously and in a manner which ensures continuity and effectiveness in the management of the unit organization.

Mr. R. A. Ambrosino, Nuclear Support Manager, has been promoted to Assistant Plant Manager and assumed the duties of that position on May 24, 1982. It should be noted that the qualifications and experience requirements for Assistant Plant Manager and Nuclear Support Manager at Grand Gulf are identical and Mr. Ambrosino had served in his prior position for 19 months. Therefore, Mr. Ambrosino is fully qualified to serve as Assistant Plant Manager.

Mr. D. M. Thomison, Outage Manager, has been assigned to fill the position of Nuclear Support Manager, effective May 24, 1982. Mr. Thomison has over twenty (20) years broad experience in the nuclear industry of which nine (9) years is in the commercial BWR area. Additionally, he has held an SRO License for the Dresden 2 and 3 BWR units and has extensive experience as an instructor and a training manager in BWR operations training. Therefore, Mr. Thomison is fully qualified to serve as Nuclear Support Manager.

Mr. R. G. Keeton, Shift Superintendent, has been reassigned as Technical Assistant to the Plant Manager. Mr. Keeton is one of our most capable Shift Superintendents and has recently been licensed at the SRO level for the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station. In this new position he will provide technical assistance, expertise and advice to the Plant Manager, Assistant Plant Manager and Nuclear Support Manager on operational matters, and help ensure that the unit is operated safely and in compliance with all regulatory requirements.

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Mr. J. F. Groves, BWR Operations Consultant, will be assigned a more active role in consultation and advice to the Plant Manager and his staff. Mr. Groves has twenty-two (22) years of broad experience in the nuclear power industry, including over four (4) years as Assistant Plant Superintendent at the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant during startup of all three BWR units. He will spend an average of two days per week on-site after Fuel Load reviewing unit operational activities and will facilitate communications and management reporting to the corporate office concerning the safety of operations of the plant.

The Grand Gulf Safety Evaluation Report (NUREG-0831) states on page 13-11:

"We have reviewed the resumes of the key plant personnel. Although the Plant Manager has no commercial nuclear power plant operating experience, he has been associated with the GGNS project since 1974 and with naval nuclear operations for the 10 previous years. He will be supported by the Assistant Plant Manager, the Nuclear Support Manager, the Operations Superintendent, and the Maintenance Superintendent, all of whom have experience with operating BWR's. We consider this to be adequate BWR experience for management of plant operations."

The organizational changes and the qualifications and experience of personnel as discussed in this letter will provide an even <u>more</u> capable plant management staff than was in place when the Safety Evaluation Report was issued in September, 1981.

MP&L has demonstrated capable and effective management during the design and construction of the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station project. Our preparations for operation have likewise been characterized by a strong commitment to nuclear safety through aggressive staffing and training of competent personnel. We intend to continue in this manner as we enter the operational phase for Grand Gulf Nuclear Station Unit 1.

Yours truly

JPM:rg

cc: Mr. N. L. Stampley

Mr. R. B. McGehee

Mr. T. B. Conner

Mr. G. B. Taylor

Mr. Richard C. DeYoung, Director Office of Inspection & Enforcement U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D. C. 20555

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