



MISSISSIPPI POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

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P. O. BOX 1640, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39205

NORRIS L. STAMPLEY
VICE PRESIDENT

December 15, 1978

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Roger S. Boyd, Director
Division of Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

SUBJECT: Grand Gulf Nuclear Station
File 0277/0630/15170/L-860.0
Safety Review Schedule
AECM-78/97

Dear Mr. Boyd:

We have received your letter dated December 8, 1978, in which you addressed the NRC safety review schedule for our Grand Gulf Nuclear Station, Units No. 1 and No. 2. Your letter indicated that if we believed the schedule to be unrealistic or needing adjustment, we should contact Dr. Cecil O. Thomas, Jr. of your office to arrange a discussion to be scheduled within the next two weeks.

As you know, we have scheduled our Grand Gulf Nuclear Station, Unit No. 1, for a fuel load date of October 1, 1980. Your safety review schedule indicates completion of your review and prospective decision date as March 6, 1981, which is more than five (5) months past our decision "need" date for the fuel load of Unit No. 1. Naturally, this is a matter of grave concern to us.

On December 14, 1978, we contacted Mr. John Stolz, of your office, and asked that we be allowed to meet with you and your staff on December 21, 1978, in Bethesda to discuss this most urgent matter. We are prepared to address our current construction and startup schedule status and believe we can show that our October 1, 1980, anticipated fuel load date is realistic.

On December 15, 1978, we discussed the possibility of this meeting further with Dr. Thomas. He indicated that your office would be unable to assemble the representation you needed for a meeting of this type until after January 1, 1979. We expressed concern that the two-week period, referenced in your December 8 letter, in which to begin discussions would have expired, but Dr. Thomas stated that

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the two-week period was standard language, and that we would not be bound by this schedule for starting our discussions. We further agreed to communicate with Dr. Thomas during the first week of January, 1979, to arrange a meeting to resolve this issue.

Let me reiterate that we are extremely concerned about this matter and stand ready to do whatever we can to ensure that you are able to complete our safety review in a timely manner compatible with our construction and startup schedule.

We look forward to meeting with you and Dr. Thomas as soon as possible in January on this matter.

Sincerely,

LFD

cc Mr. T. B. Conner
Mr. R. B. McGehee