



GULF STATES UTILITIES COMPANY

RIVER BEND STATION POST OFFICE BOX 220 ST FRANCISVILLE LOUISIANA 70775
AREA CODE 504 635-6094 346-8651

October 1, 1990
RBG-33684
File Nos. G9.5, G9.42

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

Gentlemen:

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

Gulf States Utilities Company (GSU) is providing this letter to address the progress of the evaluation and procurement activities for a system meeting Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.97 neutron monitoring requirements. Based on Facility Operating License NPF-47, License Condition 2.C(14), Attachment 5, Item 3, as modified by License Amendment 39, River Bend is required to have procured and installed a RG 1.97 neutron monitoring system prior to startup from Refueling Outage 4 unless relief is granted in writing by the NRC Staff.

Activities to date involving the procurement of a neutron monitoring system meeting RG 1.97 requirements have been in accordance with NRC Safety Evaluation Report (SER) dated January 29, 1990, on the BWROG Licensing Topical Report NEDO-31558. At this time these efforts will still allow GSU to complete the license condition if a vendor can comply with the necessary specifications as noted in the last progress report dated June 29, 1990 (RBG-33143).

GSU continues to actively follow developments on this issue. If further information is required, please contact Mr. B. M. Burmeister of my staff at (504) 381-4148.

Sincerely,

W. H. Odell
Manager-Oversight
River Bend Nuclear Group

WHO/LAE/LED/BMB/ns

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cc: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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