



**GULF STATES UTILITIES COMPANY**

RIVER BEND STATION      POST OFFICE BOX 720      ST. FRANCISVILLE, LOUISIANA 70775  
AREA CODE 804      635-8094      346-8631

December 12, 1990  
RBG-34147  
File Nos. G9.5, G9.33.4

U. S. Regulatory Commission  
Document Control Desk  
Washington, DC 20555

Gentlemen:

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

This letter provides Gulf States Utilities Company's (GSU) 30 day response to Generic Letter 89-10, Supplement 3, "Consideration of the Results of NRC-sponsored Tests of Motor-Operated Valves". This generic letter (GL) requested that BWR licensees assess the applicability of the data provided from the NRC-sponsored (INEL) motor-operated valve (MOV) tests to determine the "as-is" capability of specific HPCI, RCIC, and RWCU system MOVs and perform a plant specific safety assessment to verify that the generic safety assessment performed by the NRC staff and the BWR Owners' Group (BWROG) are applicable.

River Bend Station (RBS) is equipped with an electrically driven high pressure core spray rather than a steam driven turbine as utilized in a high pressure core injection (HPCI) system. Therefore, the valves associated with this system are not applicable to this GL supplement. The remaining applicable valves are the primary containment isolation valves for the RWCU system water supply line and the RCIC system steam supply line. The four valves in question are:

1G33\*MOVF001  
1G33\*MOVF004  
1E51\*MOVF063  
1E51\*MOVF064

Prior to issuance of this supplement, GSU accelerated our GL 89-10 testing and analysis program for these valves to determine their condition. The signature tests performed on these valves indicated that adequate thrust was available for these valves, but the torque switch settings which were set for the original design data (.3 stem factor) were not adequate to meet the new requirements set forth in GL 89-10 (.5 stem factor). The torque

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cc: U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
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switch bypass settings are set to 95%, which ensures that the motor-operators will not be switched off until the valves are at least 95% closed. The thrust developed by each valve has been set at the maximum value consistent with the ASME code stress limits for the valve.

In response to the above, GSU has performed a plant specific safety assessment based on the generic safety assessment prepared by the BWR Owners' Group MOV Testing Committee, of which GSU is a member. This plant specific safety assessment verifies that because of leak before break considerations combined with effective leak detection systems and procedures to mitigate leaks, it is not expected that the subject system isolation valves would ever be challenged at high flow design basis accident conditions. Therefore based on a realistic consideration of expected system response to postulated accident conditions leads to the conclusion that there is a significant high probability of successful valve closure.

In preparing this plant specific safety assessment, GSU has elected to perform additional analyses to confirm various statements contained in the Owner's Group assessment. Preliminary results of these analyses support the conclusion of the generic safety assessment. Finalization of the analyses will be completed by January 31, 1991. At that time our assessment will be verified and available for review.

GSU is currently evaluating these valves to determine the optimum method to bring them into full compliance with the guidelines set forth in GL 89-10. A follow-up response outlining these actions will be provided pursuant to the reporting requirements of GL 89-10, Supplement 3.

GSU is not aware of MOVs at RBS with potential deficiencies that have greater safety significance than the above analyzed valves.

If you have any questions regarding this response or this subject in general, contact Mr. Le' (etrich at (504) 381-4866.

Sincerely,



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

W. H. Odell  
WAE/OPR/LLD/WJS/pg  
W.H.  
RBS

cc: U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

STATE OF LOUISIANA )  
PARISH OF WEST FELICIANA )  
In the Matter of )  
GULF STATES UTILITIES COMPANY )

Docket No. 50-458

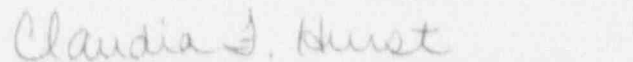
(River Bend Station - Unit 1)

**AFFIDAVIT**

W. H. Odell, being duly sworn, states that he is a Manager - Oversight for Gulf States Utilities Company; that he is authorized on the part of said company to sign and file with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission the documents attached hereto; and that all such documents are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

  
W. H. Odell

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and Parish above named, this 12<sup>th</sup> day of December, 1990. My Commission expires with Life.

  
Claudia F. Hurst  
Notary Public in and for  
West Feliciana Parish, Louisiana