

GULF STATES UTILITIES COMPAN

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October 29, 1982 RBG-13,650 File Nos. G9.5, G9.25.1.1

Mr. John T. Collins, Regional Administrator U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Region IV, Office of Inspection and Enforcement 611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000 Arlington, TX 76011

Dear Mr. Collins:

River Bend Station Unit 1 Docket No. 50-458 Final Report/DR-43

On September 30, 1982, Gulf States Utilities (GSU) notified Region IV of a deficiency that it had determined met the intent of reporting under 10CFR50.55(e) concerning unsatisfactory inspections performed by a former Field Quality Control (FQC) Inspector at River Bend Station (DR-43). Attached is the written report required pursuant 10CFR50.53(e)(3). This concludes GSU's reporting on this subject.

Sincerely,

Manager-Engineering

Nuclear Fuels & Licensing River Bend Nuclear Group

JEB/KAE/ic

cc: Director of Inspection & Enforcement U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555

R. L. Brown (SRI)

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ATTACHMENT

DR-43/Unsatisfactory Inspections Performed by A Former FQC Inspector

Description of the Deficiency

Structural steel welding was initially inspected and accepted by an FQC Inspector but was subsequently reinspected and rejected as not conforming. The problem was identified to FQC by construction iron workers and was confined to one inspector who was performing inspection in the control and auxiliary buildings on the "A" shift. The condition was further confined to inspections performed during the months of February and March, 1982 as indicated by review of past performance and investigation reinspection results.

Safety Implications

Because the inspection reports for the reworked nonconformances did not precisely give the extent of the nonconforming condition, detailed evaluations to determine the safety implications associated with the nonconformances were not performed or were inconclusive. Therefore, GSU has assumed that a condition may have existed that could have adversely affected the safe operations of the plant.

Corrective Action

Inspections conducted by this specific inspector during December, 1981 and January, February and March, 1982 were reinspected to identify any necessary corrective action. All nonconformances that were identified were reworked.

As a result of further QC investigation, it was concluded that this problem of unsatisfactory inspections by an FQC inspector was an isolated case, and that it did not represent a lack or understanding of requirements by the individual. The evaluation revealed that this problem was one of negative attitude on the part of this specific inspector. Corrective action taken resulted ultimately in job termination for this inspector. Increased FQC supervision has been stressed as a result of this incident.