

DEC 27 1990

Docket No. 50-458
License No. NPF-47

Gulf States Utilities
ATTN: James C. Deddens
Senior Vice President
P.O. Box 220
St. Francisville, Louisiana 70775

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF VIOLATION (NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-458/90-29)

This refers to the inspection conducted by Messrs. E. J. Ford, D. P. Loveless, and D. A. Powers of this office on October 17 through November 27, 1990. The inspection included a review of activities authorized for your River Bend Station facility. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report.

Areas examined during the inspection are identified in the report. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examination of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, tours of the plant facilities, and observations by the inspectors.

Based on the results of this inspection, certain of your activities appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements, as specified in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice). We are concerned about the first violation, related to maintaining a barrier for a very high radiation area, because very high radiation area barriers are of utmost importance in protecting plant workers from overexposure to radiation. Additionally, we are concerned with the apparent lack of regard for radiation barriers at your plant during the recent outage. This violation, in conjunction with several violations of high radiation area barriers, as documented in NRC Inspection Report 50-458/90-30 and the enclosed report, indicates a lack of management attention in this area. We request that you provide a discussion of the generic corrective actions that you plan to implement for the continued problems that have been previously identified in the area of control of radiation areas when you respond to the violation discussed in the attached Notice. The second violation involved the failure to follow procedures, during refueling, which resulted in the misorientation of five fuel bundles. We are concerned with this violation since there appeared to be an inherent, undue reliance on the core loading verification process in lieu of ensuring that the fuel loading procedure is adequately implemented.

You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. In your response, you should document the specific actions taken and any additional actions you plan to take to prevent recurrence. After reviewing your response to this Notice, including your proposed corrective actions and the results of

*RI	*SRI	*PE/DRP/C	*C:DRP/C	<i>[Signature]</i> DRP
DPLoveless	EJFord	RVAzua	PHHarrell	SJCollins
11/29/90	11/29/90	12/ /90	12/ /90	12/27/90

*previously concurred

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future inspections, the NRC will determine whether further NRC enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with NRC regulatory requirements.

During this inspection, Mr. P. Graham committed to replace the Rosemount transmitters, identified by a Rosemount letter as being suspect for a loss of fill oil, during the midcycle outage or any other outage of significant duration. In addition, we understand that, at the midcycle outage, you will perform ultrasonic testing on the indication in Feedwater Nozzle N4A-2, as confirmed in our letter dated November 23, 1990. These commitments are discussed in detail in paragraphs 9.b and 9.c, respectively, of the enclosed inspection report. Should your understanding of these commitments differ from ours, please contact me immediately.

In accordance with 10 CFR Part 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

The response directed by this letter and the enclosed Notice are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, Pub. L. No. 96.511.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:
Thomas P. Gwynn

Samuel J. Collins, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Enclosures:

1. Appendix A - Notice of Violation
2. Appendix B - NRC Inspection Report
50-458/90-29 w/Attachment

cc w/Enclosures:

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bcc to DMB (IE01)

bcc distributed by RIV:

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*w/766