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Region IV

Docket Nos.: 50-458/459

Mr. William J. Cahill, Jr. Senior Vice President River Bend Nuclear Group Gulf States Utilities P. O. Box 2951 Beaumont, Texas 70444 ATTN: Mr. J. E. Booker

Dear Mr. Cahill:

Subject: Safe Shutdown after a Fire for the River Bend Station

(Sections III.G. and III.L. of Appendix R)

The NRC staff has reviewed the information contained in Appendix 9A (Section 9A.2) of the River Bend FSAR through Amendment 3 in which you responded to the staff concerns regarding safe shutdown after a fire in accordance with the requirements of Branch Technical Position ASB 9.5-1, "Guidelines for Fire Protection for Nuclear Power Plants." Prior to our review, you were advised in a NRC letter dated October 20, 1981, that the staff was using the technical requirements of Appendix R as guidelines in our evaluation of the River Bend fire protection program. As a result of that review, a list of questions (Enclosure 1) was prepared, requiring responses to clarify some of the information submitted in Section 9A.2 of the FSAR.

In Amendment 4 to the FSAR, your responses to the NRC letter dated October 20, 1981 stated that information regarding safe shutdown capability after a fire would be provided later. This was confirmed by GSU letter dated August 13, 1982 which stated that details regarding safe shutdown following a fire in any fire area would be provided in Appendix 9B of the FSAR by the end of 1982.

Since the information in Appendix 9A may be modified by the information to be provided in Appendix 9B, you are not obligated to respond to the enclosed questions. However, these questions should be used as an aid in preparing the information t_0 be included in Appendix 9B, in response to the requirements of Appendix R to 10 CFR Part 50.

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As part of this review, you should address the means provided for ensuring the proper functioning of the safe shutdown capability when fire induced failures in associated circuits are considered. Enclosure 2 provides guidance to assist you in reviewing associated circuits and outlines the information required by the staff for review. It is recommended that all information outlined in Section II.C of Enclosure 2 be provided.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

A. Schwencer, Chief Licensing Branch No. 2 Division of Licensing

Enclosures: As stated

cc: See next page

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