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DOCKETED  
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\*NOT ADMITTED IN D.C.

September 20, 1982

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OFFICE OF SECRETARY  
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CABLE ADDRESS: USNRC MLAW

James A. Laurenson, Chairman  
Atomic Safety and Licensing  
Board  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory  
Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Glenn O. Bright, Member  
Atomic Safety and  
Licensing Board  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory  
Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dr. Jerry Harbour  
Atomic Safety and Licensing  
Board  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory  
Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

In the Matter of  
Mississippi Power & Light Company, et al.  
(Grand Gulf Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2  
Docket Nos. 50-416 and 50-417)

Gentlemen:

Last week, I was contacted by Ian Lindsey, Esq., an attorney with the Office of Attorney General, who represents the State of Louisiana in the captioned proceeding, asking for an extension of time to submit the State's reply to your Order to Petitioner to Respond to Arguments of Staff and Applicant of August 31, 1982, which is due to be filed on September 21, 1982. As you know, Grand Gulf Nuclear Station, Unit 1 has received an operating license which permits fuel loading and testing at power levels up to 5% of rated. The fact that a new attorney is involved is no justification for delay from an organization the size of the Louisiana Attorney General's office, which has been fully aware of this pending application for many years.

During the course of discussion of this matter with NRC Staff counsel, I learned that the Commission is scheduled to consider the issuance of authorization to proceed to full power in mid-October, but would not do so until the pending petition was disposed of by the Atomic Safety and Licensing

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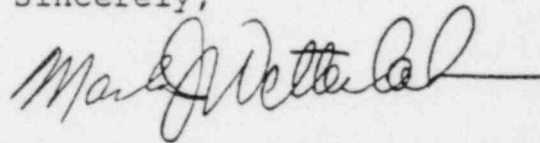
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Board. An extension of time would thus delay the Board's decision and Commission action. To permit the pendency of a petition which is over four years late and which involves a generic matter to delay consideration of this matter by the Commission is totally unacceptable and must be rejected. Counsel for the State was notified of Applicant's position.

This letter will serve to present Applicant's position to the Board should a formal request be submitted by the State and will hopefully aid the Board's expeditious ruling if an extension of time is requested.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mark J. Wetterhahn", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mark J. Wetterhahn

MJW:sdd

cc: Service List