

May 22, 1984

Docket No. 50-416
(10 CFR 2.206)

Ms. Cynthia Stewart
Jacksonians United for Livable
Energy Policies
Route 3, Box 314 - W
Jackson, Mississippi 39213

Dear Ms. Stewart:

This letter is being sent to acknowledge receipt of your petition on behalf of the Jacksonians United for Livable Energy Policies received by the Commission on April 10, 1984. Your petition requests that the Commission issue an order to Mississippi Power and Light Company to show cause why the license for the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station, Unit 1, should not be revoked and a stay of operation should not be issued. Additionally, you request that a full-power license be denied. You base your petition primarily on discrepancies in technical specifications that have been found since issuance of the low-power license and on difficulties with diesel generators supplied by Transamerica Delaval, Incorporated, in use at the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station. You also ask that the operating license be modified to remove responsible management personnel and to ensure implementation and verification of corrective actions associated with the technical specification discrepancies. Your petition has been referred to the staff for consideration in accordance with 10 CFR 2.206 of the Commission's regulations and, accordingly, appropriate action will be taken on the petition within a reasonable time.

Your petition also raises questions concerning the propriety and effectiveness of NRC personnel's actions related to Grand Gulf. Although your request for appointment of an "independent panel" to look into this issue is beyond the scope of relief normally contemplated under 10 CFR 2.206, a copy of your petition has been provided to the Office of Inspector and Auditor for its consideration.

I would like to bring to your attention two matters relating to issues raised in your petition. First, I have issued the enclosed Order for the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station which restricts conditions for operation of the plant in accordance with revised technical specifications that are intended to remove the significant discrepancies in existing specifications which would pose a potential hazard for low-power operation. While the current license for Grand Gulf authorizes operation of power levels up to 5%, I have determined the public health, safety and interest require that operation be permitted only in accordance with the more restrictive technical specifications imposed by the order. Additional changes to the technical specifications will be required prior to authorizing full-power operation. Second, in regard to the TDI diesels at Grand Gulf, while I have determined that total failure of these diesels would not significantly increase the risk of low-power operation, I am still considering whether further action

Ms. Cynthia Stewart

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should be taken for low power operation. However, I do not believe that it is necessary to suspend low-power operation at this time. Resolution of the diesel generator problems will be required before full-power operation is authorized.

I also enclose for your information a copy of a notice that is being forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by
H. R. Denton

Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosures:

- 1) Order
- 2) Notice of Receipt of Petition

*NOTE: SEE PREVIOUS WHITE FOR CONCURRENCE

DL:LB #4
*DHouston/hmc
5/10/84

LA:DL:LB #4
*MDuncan
5/10/84

DL:LB#4
*EAdensam
5/10/84

Handwritten signature
DEED
5/17/84

AD:L:DL
INovak
5/17/84

DIR:DSI
RMattson
5/1/84

DIR:DL
*DEisenhut
5/ /84

DD:NRR
EGCase
5/ /84

DIR:NRR
HRDenton
5/21/84

Handwritten: HS 5/21/84

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D. Houston

M. Duncan

Branch Rdg File/BC

D. Eisenhut/Secretary

OELD Attorney

T. Novak/Secretary

H. Denton

R. DeYoung

J. O'Reilly

Case/Denton

K. Bowman, P-428 GT#14329

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BLUE BAG IMMEDIATELY (Denials Only)

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SECY-5

General Counsel

Director & Chief Counsel, Regional

Operations Enforcement Division, OELD

(James Lieberman)

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RMattson
5/11/84

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*DEisenhut
5/ /84

DD:NRR
EGCase
5/ /84

DIR:HR
HRDenton
5/21/84

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5/24/84