

September 25, 1995

Mr. John R. McGaha, Jr.  
Vice President - Operations  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
River Bend Station  
P. O. Box 220  
St. Francisville, LA 70775

SUBJECT: RIVER BEND STATION, UNIT 1 - REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION,  
GENERIC LETTER 92-08, "THERMO-LAG 330-1 FIRE BARRIERS" (TAC NO.  
M85596)

Dear Mr. McGaha:

We have reviewed Entergy Operations, Inc. responses of December 21, 1994, and March 28, 1995, to the requests for additional information of February 9, and December 28, 1994, respectively, regarding Generic Letter (GL) 92-08, "Thermo-Lag 330-1 Fire Barriers." On the basis of our review, we have determined that the responses are incomplete.

Our summary of the requested information is included in the enclosure. Specifically, you are requested to submit ampacity derating evaluations, including any applicable test reports, in order to provide an adequate response to GL 92-08 reporting requirement 2(c). In addition, please submit the anticipated test procedures or alternatively, a description of the analytical methodology including typical calculations which will be used to determine the ampacity derating parameters for the Thermo-Lag fire barriers that are installed at River Bend Station. This information should be submitted within 45 days of receipt of this letter. If this schedule can not be met, please inform this office of the earliest date by which it will be provided.

This request is within the original reporting burden for information collection covered by the Office of Management and Budget clearance number 3150-011, which expires July 31, 1997.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

David L. Wigginton, Senior Project Manager  
Project Directorate IV-1  
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-458

cc: See next page

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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "D. Wigginton".

David L. Wigginton, Senior Project Manager  
Project Directorate IV-1  
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-458

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/encl: See next page

Mr. John R. McGaha  
Entergy Operations, Inc.

River Bend Station

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RIVER BEND STATION  
DOCKET NO. 50-458  
FOLLOWUP REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING  
GENERIC LETTER 92-08  
"THERMO-LAG 330-1 FIRE BARRIERS"

1.0 REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (RAI) OF FEBRUARY 9, 1994

In the RAI of February 9, 1994, the NRC staff requested information regarding important barrier parameters, Thermo-Lag barriers outside the scope of the NEI program, ampacity derating, alternatives, and schedules.

No information was provided by the licensee to address the ampacity derating issue.

During a public meeting on March 14, 1995, with the licensees for the four lead plants for the resolution of Thermo-Lag issues, the staff responded to the question, "Will the resolution of the ampacity derating concern be deferred until agreement is reached on the appropriate testing protocol (i.e., IEEE P848)?" The staff reiterated its position, which was previously stated in the September 1994 RAI, that the ampacity derating concern could be resolved independently of the fire endurance concerns. After a review of the tests performed under the draft IEEE standard P848, the staff transmitted comments which were designated to ensure the repeatability of test results to the IEEE working group responsible for the test procedure. The licensee is requested to submit its ampacity derating evaluations, including any applicable test reports, in order to provide an adequate response to Generic Letter 92-08 reporting requirement 2(c).

2.0 REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OF DECEMBER 28, 1994

In the RAI of December 28, 1994, the staff requested information describing the examinations and inspections that will be performed to obtain the important barrier parameters for the Thermo-Lag configurations installed at River Bend. In its response of March 28, 1995, the licensee stated that ampacity derating is an important element in River Bend's comprehensive approach to resolve Thermo-Lag issues. The licensee stated a desire to proceed with ampacity testing at the earliest possible time if they had reasonable assurance that the proposed test protocol will be acceptable to the NRC.

On May 18, 1995, members of the NRC staff held a telephone conference call with NEI (Nuclear Energy Institute) representatives concerning ampacity derating issues for Thermo-Lag fire barriers. The staff indicated that the latest IEEE P848 draft procedure can be used by licensees or NEI as the basis for an ampacity derating test program. NEI agreed to review the Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station Unit 2 Safety Evaluation (SE) in order to develop a generic test program. The memorandum dated May 22, 1995, which documents the subject telephone conference meeting, is attached for your information. In

ENCLOSURE

addition, a copy of the subject SE dated June 22, 1995, was sent to those licensees who rely on Thermo-Lag installations.

Please submit the anticipated test procedures or alternatively, a description of the analytical methodology including typical calculations which will be used to determine the ampacity derating parameters for the Thermo-Lag fire barriers that are installed at River Bend Station.