



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV

611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-8064

DEC 1 1995

Entergy Operations, Inc.
ATTN: John R. McGaha, Vice President -
Operations, River Bend Station
P.O. Box 220
St. Francisville, Louisiana 70775

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-458/95-98

This refers to the inspection conducted by Mr. C. J. Paulk and Ms. L. J. Smith of this office on August 17, 1995, via telephone with personnel from the River Bend Station facility. This initiative was prompted by recurring failures of safety-related steam turbine-driven standby pumps at several facilities in Region IV. We concurrently performed this inspection at most Region IV facilities to better understand the scope of design, maintenance, and testing practices related to safety-related steam turbines, which were supplied by the Terry Corporation. We also examined several aspects of various experience review processes to determine why similar failures continued to occur. On November 9, 1995, at the conclusion of the in-office review, 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 examinations of procedures, representative records, and interviews with personnel. The combined results of this inspection for each of the Region IV facilities are documented in the enclosed report and executive summary.

With respect to your facility, the inspection noted one condition that has been identified as a contributor to mechanical overspeed trips of safety-related steam turbine-driven standby pumps at other facilities. Specifically, your staff had not established a program for filtering turbine or governor oil in accordance with the vendor recommendations. We encourage you to review this condition to ensure continued reliable operation of the reactor core isolation cooling pump turbine.

We noted that your staff was monitoring standby temperatures while they evaluated the use of oils with vapor-phase inhibitors. Use of this oil at other facilities with high standby temperatures has resulted in governor speed control problems, and improper operation of the overspeed trip tappet.

In accordance with 10 CFR 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.

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Should you have any questions concerning this inspection, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,



Thomas P. Gwynn, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket: 50-458
License: NPF-47
Enclosure:
NRC Inspection Report
50-458/95-98 w/attachments

cc w/enclosure:
Entergy Operations, Inc.
ATTN: Harold W. Keiser, Executive Vice
President and Chief Operating Officer
P.O. Box 31995
Jackson, Mississippi 39286-1995

Entergy Operations, Inc.
ATTN: Jerrold G. Dewease, Vice President
Operations Support
P.O. Box 31995
Jackson, Mississippi 39286-1995

Entergy Operations, Inc.
ATTN: Michael B. Sellman, General Manager
Plant Operations
P.O. Box 220
St. Francisville, Louisiana 70775

Entergy Operations, Inc.
ATTN: James J. Fisicaro, Director
Nuclear Safety
River Bend Station
P.O. Box 220
St. Francisville, Louisiana 70775

Wise, Carter, Child & Caraway
ATTN: Robert B. McGehee, Esq.
P.O. Box 651
Jackson, Mississippi 39205

Winston & Strawn
ATTN: Mark J. Wetterhahn, Esq.
1401 L Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3502

Entergy Operations, Inc.
ATTN: Otto P. Bulich, Manager
Nuclear Licensing
P.O. Box 220
St. Francisville, Louisiana 70775

The Honorable Richard P. Ieyoub
Attorney General
P.O. Box 94095
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9095

H. Anne Plettinger
3456 Villa Rose Drive
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806

President of West Feliciana
Police Jury
P.O. Box 1921
St. Francisville, Louisiana 70775

Cajun Electric Power Coop, Inc.
ATTN: Larry G. Johnson, Director
Systems Engineering
10719 Airline Highway
P.O. Box 15540
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70895

William H. Spell, Administrator
Louisiana Radiation Protection Division
P.O. Box 82135
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70884-2135

E-Mail report to D. Nelson (DJN)
E-Mail report to NRR Event Tracking System (IPAS)

bcc to DMB (IE01)

bcc distrib. by RIV:

L. J. Callan
Branch Chief (DRP/D)
Project Engineer (DRP/D)
MIS System
RIV File
Senior Resident Inspector (Cooper)

Resident Inspector
Leah Tremper (OC/LFDCB, MS: TWFN 9E10)
Senior Resident Inspector (Grand Gulf)
DRSS-FIPB
Branch Chief (DRP/TSS)

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11/29/95	11/22/95	11/22/95	12/1/95	11/30/95	12/1/95	

*previously concurred

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E-Mail report to D. Nelson (DJN)
 E-Mail report to NRR Event Tracking System (IPAS)

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