



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

December 14, 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 - INSERVICE TESTING RELIEF FOR
TESTING CONTAINMENT ISOLATION VALVES IN ACCORDANCE WITH
10 CFR PART 50, APPENDIX J (TAC NO. M94114)

Dear Mr. McGaha:

By letter dated November 22, 1995, Entergy Operations, Inc. (EOI) requested an alternative to the leakage testing requirements of the 1980 Edition of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (the Code), Section XI, Paragraph IWV-3420, for the River Bend containment isolation valves included in the inservice testing program. In a related but separate licensing action, EOI requested by letter dated November 22, 1995, a license amendment to change the River Bend Technical Specifications on containment isolation valve testing so that EOI can implement Option B of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix J. The alternative to the ASME Code requirements is necessary to fully implement the Appendix J option, as the 1980 Edition of the Code does not differentiate between containment isolation valves and other valves that have a leak-tight safety function.

The staff has reviewed the EOI request and determined that it is acceptable to use a portion of the most recent edition of the ASME Code incorporated by reference in 10 CFR 50.55a (i.e., the 1989 Edition) which references Part 10 of the ASME/ANSI 1987 Operations and Maintenance Standards for inservice testing of valves. The approval is pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(f)(4)(iv) with the application of the modification specified in paragraph (b)(2)(vii) of Section 50.55a for the analysis of leakage rates and corrective actions in the event leakage exceeds the acceptance criteria, which EOI has stated will continue to be met.

Option B of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix J, provides that a licensee may, if it so chooses, implement a performance-based containment isolation valve leak rate testing program. The provisions of Option B allow that for certain valves, the local leakage rate testing (referred to as Type C testing in Appendix J) need not be performed every refueling outage. Use of the later edition of the ASME Code is necessary because containment isolation valves are specifically addressed in Part 10, referring the user to Appendix J for the leakage testing requirements for the containment isolation function. Part 10 does not specify a frequency of leakage testing the containment isolation valves. Valves that

180043

9512190502 951214
PDR ADOCK 0500045B
P PDR

NRC FILE CENTER COPY

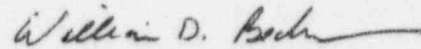
DFOI 10

J. McGaha, Jr.

-2-

have a dual function (i.e., an additional leak-tight function other than containment isolation, such as pressure isolation valves) are to be tested in accord with the ASME Code. Therefore, this approval would not supersede any leak-tight safety function test requirement applicable to the subject valves.

Sincerely,



William D. Beckner, Director
Project Directorate IV-1
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-458

cc: See next page

have a dual function (i.e., an additional leak-tight function other than containment isolation, such as pressure isolation valves) are to be tested in accord with the ASME Code. Therefore, this approval would not supersede any leak-tight safety function test requirement applicable to the subject valves.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

William D. Beckner, Director
Project Directorate IV-1
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-458

cc: See next page

DISTRIBUTION

| | | |
|------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Docket File | Public | PD4-1 r/f |
| W. Russell/F. Miraglia | R. Zimmerman | J. Roe |
| E. Adensam | D. Wigginton | P. Noonan |
| P. Campbell | J. Dyer, RIV | ACRS |
| OGC (15B18) | G. Hill (2) | J. Mitchell (17G21) |

Document Name: RB94114.LTR

| | | | | | |
|------|----------|---------------|--------------|----------|----------|
| OFC | LA:PD4-1 | PM:PD4-1 | EMEB MTEB | OGC | D:PDIV-1 |
| NAME | PNoonan | DWigginton:sw | PCampbell | C MARCO | WBeckner |
| DATE | 12/4/95 | 12/4/95 | 12/7/95 | 12/13/95 | 12/14/95 |
| COPY | YES/NO | YES/NO | YES/NO | | YES/NO |

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Mr. John R. McGaha
Entergy Operations, Inc.

cc:

Winston & Strawn
ATTN: Mark J. Wetterhahn, Esq.
1400 L Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-3502

Mr. J. E. Venable
Manager - Nuclear Licensing
Entergy Operations, Inc.
River Bend Station
P. O. Box 220
St. Francisville, LA 70775

Mr. Layne McKinney, Director
Joint Operations Cajun
10719 Airline Highway
P. O. Box 15540
Baton Rouge, LA 70895

Senior Resident Inspector
P. O. Box 1051
St. Francisville, LA 70775

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

Regional Administrator, Region IV
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000
Arlington, TX 76011

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

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

Gary F. Hall
Vice President & Controller
Cajun Electric Power Cooperative
10719 Airline Highway
P.O. Box 15540
Baton Rouge, LA 70895

River Bend Station

Mr. Harold W. Keiser
Executive Vice President and
Chief Operating Officer
Entergy Operations, Inc.
P. O. Box 31995
Jackson, MS 39286

Mr. Michael B. Sellman
General Manager - Plant Operations
Entergy Operations, Inc.
River Bend Station
Post Office Box 220
St. Francisville, LA 70775

Mr. James J. Fisicaro
Director - Nuclear Safety
Entergy Operations, Inc.
River Bend Station
Post Office Box 220
St. Francisville, LA 70775

Mr. Jerrold G. Dewease
Vice President - Operations Support
Entergy Operations, Inc.
P. O. Box 31995
Jackson, MS 39286-1995

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

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