



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV

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

JAN - 3 1996

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

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF ENFORCEMENT DISCRETION FOR ENTERGY OPERATIONS, INC.
REGARDING THE RIVER BEND STATION (NOED 95-4-007)

By letter dated December 31, 1995, you requested that the NRC exercise discretion not to enforce compliance with the actions required in Technical Specification (TS) 3.8.1, which states that, with one emergency diesel generator (EDG) inoperable, restore the EDG to an operable status within 72 hours or place the plant in Mode 3 within 12 hours and, subsequently, in Mode 4 within 36 hours. That letter documented information previously discussed with the NRC in a telephone conversation on December 31, 1995, at 6 a.m. (CST). You stated that on December 31, 1995, at 7:02 a.m. (CST), the plant would not be in compliance with TS 3.8.1. You requested that a Notice of Enforcement Discretion (NOED) be issued pursuant to the NRC's policy regarding exercise of discretion for an operating facility, set out in Section VII.c of the "General Statement of Policy and Procedures for NRC Enforcement Actions" (Enforcement Policy), NUREG-1600, and be effective for the period from the time of issuance of the NOED until 7:02 a.m. (CST) on January 3, 1996.

On December 30, 1995, the Division II EDG was prematurely shut down during an operability run, which was being performed following planned maintenance on the EDG, because of an abnormal increase in the lubricating oil sump level. The increase in the sump level was a result of a lubricating oil cooler leak, which caused water to enter the lubricating oil system. Entry of water into the lubricating oil caused a degradation of the oil and resulted in the scuffing of Cylinder 4. You stated that the need for an NOED occurred when you discovered that the time necessary to perform the required repairs and retesting of the Division II EDG would exceed the remaining time in the limiting condition for operation of TS 3.8.1. Your proposal stated that the basis for the NOED was that minimal risk would be incurred by extending the time specified in the limiting condition for operation of TS 3.8.1. The risk attributed to the time extension would be offset by the reduced risk of the avoided transient caused by a plant shutdown and cooldown and the implementation of compensatory measures. These compensatory measures included declaring Division I EDG as a protected train (i.e., access to the EDG was limited to specific personnel and no work was to be performed on the train), the alignment of the breakers in the offsite and Division I EDG power distribution systems would be checked every 6 hours, no risk adverse activities were to be voluntarily performed during the period of the NOED, and no work would be allowed on the electrical distribution systems that would put offsite power sources at risk.

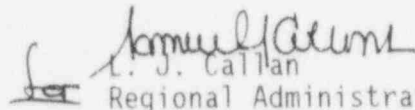
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P PDR

The staff has evaluated your proposal and accepts the basis provided in support of your request based on its satisfaction of Criterion 1(a) of Section B of Part 9900 of the NRC Inspection Manual. Specifically, the NOED would avoid an unnecessary plant transient and the associated operational risks. The basis for this decision includes the apparent extent of the compensatory actions, the reduced risk of avoiding a plant transient created by a shutdown and cooldown, and recognition that approximately 18 hours of operability testing will be performed and during this time the EDG will be available but not operable.

On the basis of the staff's evaluation of your request, the staff has concluded that an NOED is warranted because we are clearly satisfied that this action involves minimal or no safety impact and has no adverse radiological impact on public health and safety. Therefore, it is our intention to exercise discretion not to enforce compliance with TS 3.8.1 until the Division II EDG is returned to an operable status, but not to exceed 7:02 a.m. (CST) on January 3, 1996. This letter documents our telephone conversation on December 31, 1995, at 6 a.m. (CST), when we orally issued this NOED. We understand that the conditions causing the need for this NOED were corrected by you, causing you to exit from TS 3.8.1 and from this NOED on January 2, 1996, at 12:03 a.m. (CST).

However, as stated in the Enforcement Policy, action will normally be taken, to the extent that violations were involved, for the root cause that led to the noncompliance for which this NOED was necessary.

Sincerely,


L. J. Callan
Regional Administrator

Docket: 50-458
License: NPF-47

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

Entergy Operations, Inc.

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Entergy Operations, Inc.
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ATTN: James J. Fisicaro, Director
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President of West Feliciana
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Cajun Electric Power Coop. Inc.
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Entergy Operations, Inc.

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William H. Spell, Administrator
Louisiana Radiation Protection Division
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bcc to DMB (IE51)

bcc distrib. by RIV:

- L. J. Callan
- Branch Chief (DRP/D)
- Project Engineer (DRP/D)
- MIS System
- Branch Chief (DRP/TSS)
- R. Zimmerman, NRR
- A. Thadani, NRR
- J. Roe, NRR
- E. Adensam, NRR
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- PDR
- LPDR
- Technical Assistant, DRP I/II, NRR
- B. Henderson, PAO
- D. Wigginton, PM/NRR

- Resident Inspector
- Leah Tremper (OC/LFDCB, MS: TWFN 9E10)
- Senior Resident Inspector (Grand Gulf)
- RIV File
- Senior Resident Inspector (Cooper)
- L. Thomas (DRP)
- Division Director, DRP III & IV, NRR

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01/3/96	01/3/96	01/3/96	01/3/96	01/3/96

*Per telecon

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bcc to DMB (IE51)

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01/3/96	01/3/96	01/7/96	01/3/96	01/3/96

*Per telecon