



GULF STATES UTILITIES COMPANY

RIVER BEND STATION POST OFFICE BOX 220 ST FRANCISVILLE, LOUISIANA 70775
AREA CODE 504 535-8094 346-8651

May 26, 1992
RBG- 36,887
File Nos. G9.5, G15.4.1

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

Gentlemen:

River Bend Station - Unit 1
Docket No. 50-458

Pursuant to 10CFR2.201, this letter provides Gulf States Utilities Company's (GSU) response to the Notice of Violation for NRC Inspection Report 50-458/92-09. The inspection was conducted by Messrs. L.E. Ellershaw, L.D. Gilbert and I. Barnes on March 23-27, 1992, of activities authorized by NRC Operating License NPF-47 for River Bend Station - Unit 1. GSU's reply to the violation is provided in the attachment.

Should you have any questions, please contact Mr. L.A. England of my staff at (504) 381-4145.

Sincerely,

W.H. Odell
Manager - Oversight
River Bend Station Nuclear Group

LAE/PDG/DNL/MFS/kvm

Attachment

cc: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 400
Arlington, TX 76011

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

9206010202 920326
PDR ADOCK 05000458
G PDR

010042

Handwritten initials/signature

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

STATE OF LOUISIANA)

PARISH OF WEST FELICIANA)

In the Matter of)

GULF STATES UTILITIES COMPANY)

Docket No. 50-458

(River Bend Station - Unit 1)

AFFIDAVIT

W. H. Odell, being duly sworn, states that he is a Manager-Oversight for Gulf States Utilities Company; that he is authorized on the part of said company to sign and file with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission the documents attached hereto; and that all such documents are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.



W. H. Odell

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and Parish above named, this 26th day of May, 1992. My Commission expires with Life.



Claudia F. Hurst
Notary Public in and for
West Feliciana Parish, Louisiana

ATTACHMENT

RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF VIOLATION 50-458/9209-01 LEVEL IV

Notice of Violation - Letter from A. Bill Beach to J.C. Deddens dated, April 23, 1992

VIOLATION

Criterion V of Appendix B to 10 CFR Part 50 and the licensee's approved quality assurance program description require that activities affecting quality be accomplished in accordance with procedures. Paragraph 6.4 in Procedure RBNP-026 and the note attached to paragraph 6.3.1.2 in Procedure NLP-10-006, require responsible department heads to respond to Nuclear Licensing's requests for information regarding applicability and reportability of potentially reportable conditions and NRC Information Notices within 30 and 60 days, respectively, or provide alternative response due dates.

Contrary to the above, approximately 47 NRC Information Notices and 18 potentially reportable conditions were identified in which information responses from responsible department heads were neither provided to Nuclear Licensing nor were alternative response due dates established. Due dates for potentially reportable conditions and NRC Information Notices had been exceeded by as few as 30 days and by as much as 2 years, without responses being initiated.

REASON FOR THE VIOLATION

GSU failed to implement the requirements of procedures RBNP-026 and NLP-10-006 in that responses or revised schedules for responses were not provided for potential reportable conditions (PRCs) and NRC Information Notices (INs) within 30 days for PRCs and 60 days for INs. The reasons for this violation has two parts. First, while Nuclear Licensing did initially specify the timing requirements to other departments and also provided an overdue memorandum every two months to the responsible department, the bi-monthly memorandum did not require a response and thus Nuclear Licensing did not remind the responsible departments of the procedural requirement to provide a response to each document or to provide a revised schedule. Second, the responsible departments did not prioritize evaluation of each of the subject documents such that the assigned response date was met. The results of these actions led to the failure to provide the required responses or schedules in a timely manner.

CORRECTIVE STEPS WHICH HAVE BEEN TAKEN AND RESULTS ACHIEVED

Nuclear Licensing issued a memo to each responsible department head that requested a response be provided to Nuclear Licensing by June 15, 1992 for documents requiring response prior to January, 1991. Any document requiring response by March, 1992 was required to be evaluated by June 30, 1992. This memo contains current status which includes seven PRCs (four from 1991 and three from 1992) and 56 INs (33 prior to 1992 and 23 from 1992) that require response. In addition to documents received prior to the NRC Inspection, this status includes documents received and processed since the date of the inspection.

CORRECTIVE STEPS THAT WILL BE TAKEN TO AVOID FURTHER VIOLATIONS

Nuclear Licensing will ensure that either a response is provided to each document by the date assigned in the bi-monthly memo or that a revised schedule is provided. This will be done by requiring response to the bi-monthly memo. The memo will ensure that departments are kept aware of documents requiring response as well as the schedule for each. In addition, PRCs will be processed using the condition report program (RBNP-030). This will provide additional assurance of evaluation during the 30 day time frame. Use of condition reports will also ensure that impact on operability of equipment is promptly addressed.

DATE WHEN FULL COMPLIANCE WILL BE ACHIEVED

Responses or revised schedules for responses will be completed by June 30, 1992. Nuclear Licensing will begin to use the condition report program to evaluate PRCs as of the date of this letter.