



MISSISSIPPI POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

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P. O. BOX 1640, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39215-1640

March 7, 1985

NUCLEAR LICENSING & SAFETY DEPARTMENT

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Washington, D. C. 20555

Attention: Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director

Dear Mr. Denton:

SUBJECT: Grand Gulf Nuclear Station
Units 1 and 2
Docket Nos. 50-416 and 50-417
License No. N-F-29
File: 0260/0.72/L-860.0
Humphrey Containment Concerns
AECM-85/0038

On November 16, 1984, the Containment Issues Owner's Group (CIOG) met with members of your staff to discuss the generic methodology for defining the loads produced from encroached pool swell and the plant unique approach that each member was going to take to resolve the encroached pool issue. During this meeting, CIOG presented the details of the generic load definition methodology that will be used to apply the test results from 1/10-scale tests. The preliminary evaluation of your staff members, based on the information supplied and discussed in the meeting, was that the generic encroachment load definition methodology seemed to be reasonable and adequate.

In the discussion of plant specific approaches, Mississippi Power & Light (MP&L) stated that the plant unique load definition for Grand Gulf Nuclear Station (GGNS) was almost complete. MP&L also indicated that its architect engineer was currently analyzing the affected structures and components for which loads had been defined. The staff noted that in at least one area, the calculated pressure using the encroached pool load methodology appeared considerably higher than the original design load and recommended that MP&L consider performing, in parallel with the analytical approach, additional sub-scale tests using a GGNS specific encroachment. MP&L indicated that test options were being investigated but that no firm decision had been made at that time. MP&L also agreed to advise the staff on whether additional testing would be performed within a week.

On November 21, 1984, Mr. S. H. Hobbs of MP&L called Mr. M. B. Fields of your staff to inform the staff that MP&L intended to perform additional 1/10-scale tests with the existing facility and GGNS specific encroachment dimensions. This effort has commenced and a schedule identifying pertinent milestones is included as Attachment 1 to this letter.

It should be noted that because of the complexity and amount of effort required to finalize the structural analysis of load definitions from the

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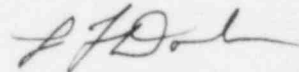
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original 1/10-scale tests, MP&L has stopped this effort. Work has continued on the development of the structural analytical model which will be used in the structural analysis. The load definitions from the GGNS plant specific 1/10-scale tests will be utilized for the structural analysis. MP&L feels that this is a more effective use of limited resources since this information is now available.

MP&L remains committed to assuring that encroached pool swell does not adversely affect plant equipment or structures. Although MP&L does not believe that this issue has any immediate safety significance, MP&L is proceeding on an expedited schedule to complete this confirmatory effort and resolve this issue.

Yours truly,



L. F. Dale
Director

GWS/SHH:rw
Attachment

cc: Mr. J. B. Richard (w/a)
Mr. R. B. McGehee (w/a)
Mr. N. S. Reynolds (w/a)
Mr. G. B. Taylor (w/o)

Mr. James M. Taylor, Director (w/a)
Office of Inspection & Enforcement
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dr. J. Nelson Grace, Regional Administrator (w/a)
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
101 Marietta St., N. W., Suite 2900
Atlanta, Georgia 30323

GGNS SPECIFIC ENCROACHED POOL SWELL
ISSUE CLOSURE SCHEDULE

1. GE completes load definition from plant specific tests and transmits to MP&L/Bechtel Week of February 4, 1985
2. GE complete and issue Draft Final Test Report to MP&L Week of March 11, 1985
3. Submit Final Test Report to NRC Week of April 1, 1985
4. Bechtel completes evaluation of plant specific loads Week of April 15, 1985
5. MP&L submits Summary of Bechtel Evaluation and identifies any additional course of action Week of May 15, 1985