

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON D.C. 20666

July 30, 1992

Docket No. 50-382

Mr. Ross P. Barkhurst Vice President Operations Entergy Operations, Inc. Post Office Box B Killona, Louisiana 70066

Dear Mr. Barkhurst:

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY WAIVER OF COMPLIANCE FROM THE PROVISIONS OF

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION 4.3.2.1, TABLE 3.4.2 - WATERFORD STEAM

ELECTRIC STATION, UNIT NO. 3

This letter grants a one-time waiver of compliance to the Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit No. 3, from Monthly Channel Functional Test of the actuation logic specified by Technical Specification (TS), Table 3.4.2. On July 26, 1992, Waterford 3 experienced a recirculation actuation signal (RAS) while performing surveillance testing on the engineered safety features actuation system (ESFAS) automatic actuation logic initiation relays. Similar occurrences have caused two plant trips in 1991 during surveillance testing. The cause has been attributed to the malfunctioning of a test circuit and not to the protective features of the plant protection system.

The Entergy Operations, Inc. letter dated July 29, 1992, which was t. ensmitted electronically to both Region IV and this office, provided the written basis for your waiver request. The waiver is granted herein with the concurrence of NRC's Region IV Office. The granting of the waiver was required before the normally scheduled relay testing during the weekend of August 1, 1992.

The Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) performed an evaluation based on the information in your request and the information that Entergy Operations, Inc. has submitted for a proposed license amendment. The letters associated with the proposed license amendment are dated October 11, 1991, and December 18, 1991. The license amendment is to extend the EFAS automatic actuation logic surveillance testing interval from monthly to quarterly. While the proposed license amendment is still in review, Entergy has provided sufficient justification for the waiver, and we find your request acceptable.

Your waiver request stated that the relay's surveillance history supported the conclusions made in CEN-327, which the staff reviewed, and that the waiver should cover only the initiation relays for a time period less than the quarterly schedule proposed in the license amendment. The proposed amendment concludes that the change does not affect the health and safety of the public or involve any significant hazards or adverse environmental consequences. In

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Mr. Ross P. Barkhurst Entergy Operations, Inc.

cc:

Mr. Glenn Miller, Administrator Radiation Protection Division Office of Air Quality and Nuclear Energy Post Office Box 82135 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70884-2135

Mr. John R. McGaha Vice President, Operations Support Entergy Operations, Inc. P. O. Box 31995 Jackson, Mississippi 39286

William A. Cross Bethesda Licensing Office 3 Metro Center Suite 610 Bethesda, Maryland 20814

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

Mr. D. F. Packer General Manager Plant Operations Entergy Operations, Inc. P. O. Box B Killona, Louisiana 70066

Mr. L. W. Laughlin, Licensing Manager Entergy Operations, Inc. P. O. Box B Killona, Louisiana 70066

Winston & Strawn Attn: N.S. Reynolds 1400 L Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20005-3502 Waterford 3

Regional Administrator, Region IV U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission 611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000 Arlington, Texas 7601i

Resident Inspector/Waterford NPS Post Office Box 822 Killona, Louisiana 70066

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Mr. Donald C. Hintz, President and Chief Operating Officer Entergy Operations, Inc. P. C. sox 31995 Jackson, Mississippi 39286

Chairman Louisiana Public Service Commission One American Place, Suite 1630 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70825-1697

Mr. R. F. Burski, Director Nuclear Safety Entergy Operations, Inc. P. O. Box B Killona, Louisiana 70066 Mr. Ross P. Barkhurst - 2 discussions with your staff regarding this waiver, this continues to be the Entergy Operation, Inc. position. The licensee also confirmed that the request was reviewed and approved by the Plant Operation Review Committee. This waiver shall be valid until the station modification is concluded during the refueling outage scheduled to begin on September 19, 1992. If your understanding of this matter differs from that expressed or you have any questions regarding this action, please contact me at (301) 504-1353 or Dave Wigginton at (301) 504-1301. Sincerely, Martin J. Virgilio, Assistant Director for Regions IV and V Reactors Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV/V Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation cc: See next page

discussions with your staff regarding this waiver, this continues to be the Entergy Operation, Inc. position. This waiver shall be valid until the station modification is concluded during the refueling outage scheduled to begin on September 19, 1992.

If your understanding of this matter differs from that expressed or you have any questions regarding this action, please contact me at (301) 504-1353 or Dave Wigginton at (301) 504-1301.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY Q. J. Larkins
Wi Martin J. Virgilio, Assistant Director for Regions IV and V Reactors Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV/V Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

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