Mr. William J. Cahill, Jr.
Senior Vice President
River Bend Nuclear Group
Gulf States Utilities Company
Post Office Box 2951
Beaumont, Texas 77704
ATTN: Mr. J. E. Booker

Dear Mr. Cahill:

Subject: River Bend Station Construction Completion and Readiness for Fuel Load

Based upon information provided by you on the record, you continue to predict construction completion of River Bend Station in April 1985. The staff considers this to be optimistic since you are 25% behind in preoperational testing and do not appear to have provided contingency time in your schedule. The staff feels that such contingency time is essential to allow you to deal with problems which typically have occurred in other nuclear power plant facilities at this stage of construction. Nevertheless, we are continuing to pursue completion of the licensing process in order to have minimal impact on your official construction completion date of April 2, 1985. Please keep us informed of any significant improvements or slippages in your April 2, 1985 completion date.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Novak, Assistant Director for Licensing Division of Licensing

cc: See next page

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