



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV

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

OCT 16 1992

Docket No. 50-458  
License No. NPF-4.

Gulf States Utilities  
ATTN: James C. Deddens  
Senior Vice President (RBNG)  
P.O. Box 220  
St. Francisville, Louisiana 70775

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO 50-458/92-30 (NOTICE OF VIOLATION)

This refers to the inspection conducted by Messrs. E. J. Ford, and the inspectors listed in the attached report, of this office on August 16 through September 26, 1992. The inspection included a review of activities authorized for your River Bend Station facility. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with you and those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report.

Areas examined during the inspection are identified in the report. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examination of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observations of activities in progress.

Based on the results of this inspection, certain licensed activities appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements, as specified in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice). The violation is of concern because you failed to control safeguards information that identified weaknesses and vulnerabilities in the physical security of River Bend Station. This information, if compromised, could have been used to gain unauthorized or undetected access to the protected area.

The NRC is also concerned about your reluctance to report the manual reactor scram of September 11, 1992. This report was made only after significant NRC involvement. This scram was initiated from a power level significantly higher than the routine shutdown procedure and was prompted by uncontrolled and deteriorating equipment problems. This type of transient is of interest to the NRC so that the agency can perform a prompt assessment of the potential or actual safety significance of the event and fulfill our responsibilities of emergency response.

You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. In your response you should document the specific actions taken and any additional actions you plan to prevent recurrence. After reviewing your response to this Notice, including your proposed corrective actions and the results of future

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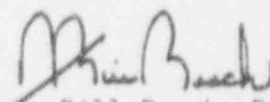
inspections, the NRC will determine whether further NRC enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with NRC regulatory requirements.

In accordance with 10 CFR Part 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

The responses directed by this letter and the enclosed Notice are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, Pub. L. No. 96.511.

Should you have any questions regarding this inspection, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,



A. Bill Beach, Director  
Division of Reactor Projects

Enclosures:

1. Appendix A - Notice of Violation
2. Appendix B - NRC Inspection Report  
50-458/92-30

cc w/enclosures:

Gulf States Utilities  
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bcc to DMB (1E01)

bcc distrib. by RIV:

J. L. Milhoan

DRP

Lisa Shea, RM/ALF, MS: MNBB 4503

DRSS-FIPS

Project Engineer (DRP/C)

DRS

Senior Resident Inspector, Cooper

Senior Resident Inspector, Fort Calhoun

J. Lieberman, OE, MS: 7-H-5

Resident Inspector

Section Chief (DRP/C)

MIS System

RSTS Operator

RIV File

Chief, Technical Support Section

NRR Peactor Systems Branch

G. F. Sanborn, EO

JIV: SRI

EJFond

10/02/92

C:DRP/C

PHHarrell

10/15/92

DRS/OPS

JEWhittemore

10/15/92

D:DRP

ABBeach

10/16/92

C:DRS/OPS

TFStetka

10/15/92

RE:DRP

ECollins

10/15/92

DRS/TPS

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JEGagliardo

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