



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV

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

JAN - 8 1993

Docket No. 50-458
License No. NPF-47

Gulf States Utilities
ATTN: P. D. Graham
Vice President (RBNG)
P.O. Box 220
St. Francisville, Louisiana 70775

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-458/92-34 (NOTICE OF VIOLATION)

This refers to the inspection conducted by Mr. W. F. Smith, and the inspectors identified in the attached report, of this office on November 8 through December 19, 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 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, inspections of installed equipment and system lineups, interviews with personnel, and observation of activities in progress.

Based on the results of this inspection, certain of your activities appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements, as specified in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice). The first two violations are of concern because your operators failed to comply with the plant Technical Specifications during a routine startup and again during a routine shutdown. Additional violations were cited in NRC Inspection Report 50-458/92-32 for failure of your operators to comply with the plant Technical Specifications. While it is commendable that your staff has been identifying these violations, it is expected that you will take appropriate and positive generic corrective actions to prevent future violations.

The third violation is of concern because safety-related equipment was allowed to degrade over an 18-month period without being identified by your staff. Of particular concern is the fact that after the NRC brought the condition of Unit Cooler 1HVR*UC5 to your attention, the plant was in Operational Condition 1 for 3 additional days before the operability of five similar unit coolers were assessed. In addition to the response requested in the Notice of Violation, you are requested to include a discussion of the cause and corrective action for the delay in determining the operability of the remaining unit coolers.

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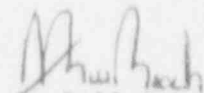
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You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. In your response, you should document the specific actions taken and any additional actions you plan to prevent recurrence. After reviewing your response to this Notice, including your proposed corrective actions and the results of future 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
50-458/92-34

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

RIV File

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

Section Chief (DRP/TSS)

R. Wise, AC

G. Sanborn, EO

RIV:SR4

WFSmith

1/5/93

PE:DRP/C

ECCollins

1/5/93

C:DRP/C

JEGagardo

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