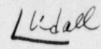


UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555



August 21, 1984

Louisiana Par.

NOTE FOR: Henry Myers

Subcommittee on Energy and the Environment Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs United States House of Representatives

FROM:

Fred Combs

Office of Congressional Affairs

SUBJECT:

WATERFORD 3 PROJECT STATUS

In accordance with our conversation today, I've attached a copy of our update of the status of the Waterford 3 project. This information supplements the Commission's May 31, 1984 letter to Chairman Udall.

Attachment: As stated

cc: Tom Weimer

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FSAR Review: In the staff's review of the Waterford 3 FSAR, a Safety Evaluation Report and six supplements have been published. The seven safety issues remaining from SSER 6 that have not yet been resolved will be addressed in SER Supplement No. 8, prior to the staff making its licensing decision. The seven issues remaining are:

1. Environmental qualification,

2. Auxiliary pressurizer spray system,

3. Operating procedures,

4. Leakage reduction program,

5. Fire protection,

6. Liquid and solid radwaste system,

7. Initial test program.

SSER 8 is expected to be issued in August 1984.

Allegations: The staff completed its onsite technical review of allegations and concerns in late May. The staff will document its efforts in SSER 7 expected to be issued in August 1984. By letter dated June 13, 1984, the staff requested additional information from LP&L in 23 areas where potential safety concerns were identified. Louisiana Power and Light responded to the staff's request on June 28, 1984, with a proposed program plan describing methods of approaching resolution of each of the issues. Louisiana Power and Light has designated a Task Force of non-LP&L employees to review the adequacy of the resolutions and their safety significance. The Task Force includes members of UNC Nuclear Industries and NUS Corporation. The staff is continuing to review LP&L's proposed program plan and discussions are continuing between the staff and LP&L on a few of LP&L's approaches to resolution for the individual areas. The staff will follow up on LP&L's efforts to resolve all of the staff's safety concerns and publish the results of the staff review in a supplement to the SER.

In the June 28, 1984 letter, Mr. Cain, the Chief Executive Officer, indicated that LP&L does not intend to request its operating license until Mr. Cain is personally satisfied that the issues have been satisfactorily addressed.

Basemat: There is currently a motion before the Appeal Board to reopen the hearings on the subject of the cracked basemat's structural integrity. The staff is due to file its response to the motion on July 27, 1984.

On July 10, 1984, the staff met with LP&L and its consultant, R. Muenow, P.E., to discuss a program for non-destructive examination of the cracks. The purpose of the applicant's program is to define the crack's depth, length, width, orientation, and proximity to or linkage with other cracks in the mat. Mr. Muenow has begun the examination and will present his preliminary findings to the staff before the staff issues its response to the Appeal Board.

Inspections: The completion of the routine regional inspection actions is expected by August. The major area yet to be resolved is the closure of Significant Construction Deficiency open items.