



GULF STATES UTILITIES COMPANY

RIVER BEND STATION POST OFFICE BOX 220 ST FRANCISVILLE, LOUISIANA 70775

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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

Gentlemen:

Enclosed is a report regarding Continuous Conductivity Monitoring at River Bend Station. This report is being provided for information as a result of a condition of inoperability during a portion of the first refueling outage.

Sincerely,

J. E. Booker
Manager-River Bend Oversight
River Bend Nuclear Group

JEB
JEB/TFP/DRD/RRS/ch

cc: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region IV
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000
Arlington, TX 76011

NRC Resident Inspector
Post Office Box 1051
St. Francisville, LA 70775

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INFORMATIONAL REPORT

On 10/28/87 with the unit in mode 5 (refueling) the in-line continuous recording conductivity monitor for the reactor coolant system became inoperable as a result of associated system shutdowns and realignments in support of the first refueling outage. River Bend Technical Specification Surveillance Requirement 4.4.6.c. requires continuous recording of the conductivity of the reactor coolant "or, when the continuous recording conductivity monitor is inoperable for up to 31 days, obtaining an in-line conductivity measurement at least once per ...2. 24 hours"...

On 11/29/87 the continuous recording conductivity monitor had been inoperable for 31 days due to associated system shutdowns and realignments in support of the first refueling outage. The Technical Specifications do not provide any guidance on the required actions if the 31 days has been exceeded. To comply with the Technical Specifications, the Limiting Condition for Operation (LCO) was entered in accordance with Technical Specification 4.0.3, and Action Statement 3.4.4.c.i. was complied with by performing the required engineering evaluation on the effects of the out-of-limit condition on the structural integrity of the reactor coolant system. Since all 24 hour in-line conductivity measurements, as well as the required grab sample analysis every 72 hours, showed that the conductivity was significantly below the limits of the Technical Specification, there was no impact on the structural integrity of the reactor coolant system. The continuous recording conductivity monitor was restored to operable status on 12/15/87.

To preclude confusion in the future regarding this surveillance requirement, a Technical Specification change to remove the 31 day limitation is being developed. This will prevent the use of Action Statements when appropriate surveillances are already being conducted. The surveillances will show that the conductivity remains well within the Technical Specification limits.