Docket No.: 50-382

Mr. Clair M. Billington Airspace Specialist, ASW-539 Air Traffic Division Post Office Box 1689 Fort Worth, Texas

Dear Mr. Billington:

This is in reference to the March 8, 1983 notice (83-ASW-0029-NRA) requesting comments regarding the proposed airport facility in St. Charles Parish, Louisiana. This matter was brought to our attention in April of 1983 by the Louisiana Power & Light Company (LP&L), owners of the Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3 which was licensed by NRC. Subsequently, it was our understanding that planning for the proposed airport in the vicinity of Waterford 3 had become inactive and as indicated in the attached Supplement to the Waterford 3 Safety Evaluation Report (pp 2-2 and 2-3), the NRC expected to have the opportunity to provide input regarding any proposed airport site as it affects the safety of Waterford 3.

Recently, LP&L has informed us that the planning has been resumed, and that a specific site selection had been made. We have examined the proposed site and the projected air traffic (site 1 of "St. Charles Parish General Aviation Airport Site Selection and Master Plan Study", May, 1982) with respect to the potential aircraft hazards to Waterford 3. Our findings are that the estimated hazard level exceeds our screening criteria with respect to airports in the vicinity of a nuclear power plant. Hence, if the proposed airport is constructed and operated, we would require LP&L to perform a detailed safety analysis to determine the probability of an aircraft mishap causing a radiation release in excess of 10 CFR Part 100 dose guidelines. Should the probability exceed our acceptance criteria, LP&L would be required to harden the plant such that the probability of a release would be reduced to an acceptable level.

We bring these considerations to your attention since we understand that your current site selection was made without consideration of the public health and safety implications of an aircraft crash on the Waterford 3 plant, or the potentially significant costs to LP&L to harden the plant. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact James H. Wilson at (301) 492-8593.

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Mr. R. S. Leddick Louisiana Power & Light Company

cc:

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