FEB 2 8 1986

Docket Nos. 50-458/459

Gulf States Utilities Company
ATTN: Mr. J. E. Booker
Manager - Engineering,
Nuclear Fuel and Licensing
River Bend Nuclear Group
P.O. Box 2951
Beaumont, TX 77704

Gentlemen:

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This is in response to your letter dated January 10, 1996, concerning Invoice No. E0188, dated December 13, 1985, in the amount of \$278,860 for the withdrawn River Bend 2 operating license application. You indicated that a review of the license fee documentation which was provided to the law firm of Conner and Wetterhahn on January 8, 1986, does not allow you to conclude that the amount billed was appropriately attributed to work expended on River Bend 2. In addition, you state that any mechanism that arbitrarily divides review time between the units after notification of withdrawal of the unit is impermissible and that work specifically shown as applicable to Unit 2 after January 6, 1984, must be specifically justified.

We have again reviewed the background data which was provided to your Company in support of the bill and have concluded that the documentation shows that the amount billed is attributable to work expended for River Bend 2. Enclosure 1 shows the cost detail by program office. Discussions with the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) staff have confirmed the following: 1) the 891.5 professional staff hours were charged specifically to River Bend 2, Docket 50-459; 2) all of the hours were expended prior to calendar year 1984, the date the River Bend 2 application was withdrawn, and 3) the contract costs of \$346,941 shown for the period March 25, 1977 to September 30, 1983 are applicable to both units and should be divided equally between those units. The documentation for the remaining contract costs of \$49,798 shows that the costs were expended specifically for Unit 2. The documentation also shows that only \$15,457 of the billed NRR contractual cost was expended in 1984 (January - \$2,589; February - \$2,484; March - \$500; June - \$9,865 and October -\$19). The 1984 charges relate to the closeout and documentation of completed reviews. In determining when the NRC completes the necessary tasks (review) to close out the withdrawn application, the NRC uses the date the Atomic

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Safety and Licensing Board Panel (ASLBP) grants the withdrawal of the application and terminates the proceeding. Since the ASLBP terminated the proceeding on November 20, 1984, the \$15,457 in NRR contractual costs expended through October 1984 are applicable to the Unit 2 review and have been appropriately assessed.

A review of the professional staff hours (Enclosure 1) relating to the Office of Inspection and Enforcement, Headquarters and the Regional Offices shows that all of the hours were specifically charged to the River Bend 2 docket and were expended prior to calendar year 1984, the date the application was withdrawn. The Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS) staff has confirmed that the 519 hours charged to the River Bend project should be divided equally between the two units because the review dealt with the River Bend contingency plan, the guard training plan, and the security plan, and the review of the three plans applies equally to both units. All of NMSS review hours were expended prior to the ASLBP dismissal of the case.

Based on the above, we have determined that there is no fee issue to be resolved in connection with Invoice No. E0188; therefore, your request for waiver of the interest charges is denied. Further, the request for extending the 30-day payment period was not received by the NRC before the expiration of such period on January 13, 1986. As payment on the billed fee was not received within 30 days from the invoice date, interest accrues from December 13, 1985, at the rate of \$68.76 per day. A revised invoice reflecting interest charges through February 28, 1986, is enclosed. Your payment should include interest through the day payment is made. Enclosed for your information is a copy of the "NRC Procedures for Extending Payment Dates of License Fee Billings" which addresses disputed bills as well as interest and penalty charges.

Sincerely,

Signed C. James Wollowsy, Jr.

C. James Holloway, Jr., Acting Director License Fee Management Staff Office of Administration

Enclosures:

1. Cost Detail by Program Offices

2. NRC Procedures

3. Invoice

\*See previous copy and routing slip for concurrences.

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to Guif States Utilities in response to their setter of 1/10/86 re review cost for withdrawn application for giver mend Unit No. 2.



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FROM: (Name, org. symbol, Agency/Post)

GP0 906-936

C. J. Holloway, LFMS

Room No.-Bldg.

AR2015 Phone No.

862666 862666

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\* GPO: 1983 0 - 381-529 (232)

## Date ROUTING AND TRANSMITTAL SLIP 2/6/86 TO: (Name, office symbol, mom number, building, Agency/Post) Initials Date 5 WS R. SMith, OELD - f/concurrence 845 Solander, f/concurrence NRR RBROWN Skelton, NMSS, f/concurrence G. Johnson, RM/K, #/concurrence C. J. Holloway, LFMS, f/signature Note and Return File Action Approval For Clearance Per Conversation As Requested For Correction Prepare Reply Circulate For Your Information See Me Signature Comment Investigate Coordination Justify

REMARKS

Letter to Gulf States Utilities in response to their letter of 1/10/86 re review cost for withdrawn application for River Bend Unit No. 2



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FRCM: (Name, org. symbol, Agency/Post)

C. J. Holloway, LFMS

Room No .-- Bldg. AR2015

Phone No.

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Sincerely,

C. James Holloway, Jr. Acting Director License Fee Management Staff Office of Administration

## Enclosures:

1. Cost Detail by Program Offices

2. NRC Procedures

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RSmith, ELD
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LFMS Actual Manpower File (2)
LFMS Reactor File (2)
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License Fee Management Staff

Office of Administration Office of Administration

## Enclosures:

- 1. Cost Detail by Program Offices
- 2. NRC Procedures
- 3 Invoice

as the billed fee was not par as payment on the billed fee was not received within 30 days from the musice date, intrest accrues from the December 13, 1985, at the rate of \$168.76 pr day. A revised invoice reflecting