



GULF STATES UTILITIES COMPANY

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AREA CODE 504 635-6094 348-8651

May 13, 1988
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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

Gentlemen:

River Bend Station - Unit 1
Docket No. 50-458

This letter provides revisions to Gulf States Utilities (GSU) submittal of June 7, 1987 (RBG-26059) Attachment 3 as discussed with the staff on April 14, 1988. Attachment 3 of the GSU submittal requests NRC approval to revise the ISOLATION ACTUATION INSTRUMENTATION SETPOINTS for the main steam line tunnel temperature and differential temperature monitors (reference Technical Specification Table 3.3.2-2). Two areas of the steam tunnel were to have temperature monitor setpoint changes. These are commonly referred to as the north (auxiliary building) and south (turbine building) main steam tunnel (MST). GSU requests the Technical Specification Table 3.3.2-2 items 2.h.1 and 2 changes to the south MST in Attachment 3 of the June 7, 1987 letter be withdrawn.

GSU has recently determined the additional unit coolers installed in the south MST will now be made a permanent installation. These unit coolers were originally installed as an interim measure pursuant to 10CFR50.59 as part of modification package MR 86-0003 in the south MST to lower the unexpectedly high area temperatures. Additional precautions of periodic visual surveillances in the area indicated any leakage is well below the present design criteria. This action was also desirable from a personnel access standpoint. The additional cooling capacity reduces area temperatures by approximately 10°F allowing limited maintenance and surveillance activities by plant personnel. Given the desire to enhance access to the MST by the use of the additional cooling, the present setpoints were found sufficient for continued operation; therefore, the south MST setpoint changes are no longer required.

The cooling addition modification will continue to support the original design basis and was evaluated pursuant to 10CFR50.59 and was determined to not represent an unreviewed safety question. The leak detection setpoint analysis determines the temperature rise resulting from a leak in the south-MST and uses an initial temperature of 105°F prior to the start of leakage. The unit coolers were modeled as a heat sink with return air of 105°F which will conservatively model the capacity of the cooling. Based on operational data, the additional heat load in the MST is approximately

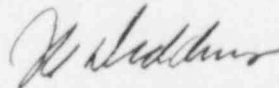
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1,000,000 BTU/HR above the original design assumptions. The additional coolers remove approximately 600,000 BTU/HR. Since the cooling only reduces part of the additional heat load, this modification is conservative with respect to the overall increase of additional heat load in the south MST. The normal operating temperature in the south MST varies from approximately 105°F to 122°F.

With the present configuration and operating conditions, there is an adequate margin to the trip setpoint for normal operation. As a result, GSU's original design criteria and setpoints for the MST-south leak detection are supported and changes to the present Technical Specification table 3.3.2-2 items 2.h.1 and 2 are not required.

Sincerely,



J. C. Deddens
Senior Vice President
River Bend Nuclear Group

JCD/JEB/LAE/IRH/MSB/ch
MSB
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ch

Enclosure

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

STATE OF LOUISIANA)
PARISH OF WEST FELICIANA)
In the Matter of) Docket No. 50-458
GULF STATES UTILITIES COMPANY) 50-459

(River Bend Station,
Unit 1)

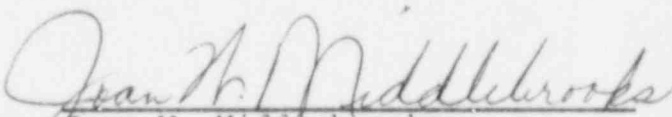
AFFIDAVIT

J. C. Deddens, being duly sworn, states that he is a Senior Vice President of Gulf States Utilities Company; that he is authorized on the part of said company to sign and file with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission the documents attached hereto; and that all such documents are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.



J. C. Deddens

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and Parish above named, this 13th day of May, 1988.



Joan W. Middlebrooks
Notary Public in and for
West Feliciana Parish,
Louisiana

My Commission is for Life.