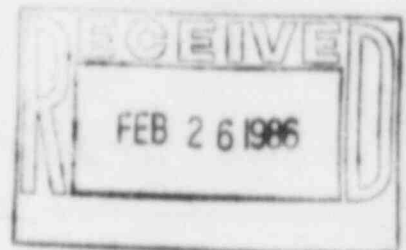


GULF STATES UTILITIES COMPANY

RIVER BEND STATION POST OFFICE BOX 220 ST. FRANCISVILLE, LOUISIANA 70775
AREA CODE 504 636-6094 346-8851

February 20, 1986
RBG- 23211
File Nos. G9.5, G9.25.1.4

Mr. Robert D. Martin, Regional Administrator
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region IV
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000
Arlington, TX 76011



Dear Mr. Martin:

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

Enclosed is Gulf States Utilities Company's Special Report concerning the Division I Diesel Generator failure to start during a surveillance test at River Bend Station. This report is submitted pursuant to Technical Specification 4.8.1.1.3 and 6.9.2.

Sincerely,

J. E. Booker
Manager-Engineering,
Nuclear Fuels & Licensing
River Bend Nuclear Group

JEB
JEB/TFP/DRG/BEH/ebm

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

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Special Report

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Reported Condition

On 01/21/86 at 1132 with the unit at 22 percent power, the Division I diesel generator 1EGS*EG1A failed to start during performance of surveillance test procedure STP-309-0201 "Diesel Generator Division I Operability Test." The surveillance test was later successfully performed at 2150, 10 hours after the failure. The diesel generator, manufactured by Transamerica Delaval Inc., has model number DSR-48 and serial number 74039-2639.

A previous Division I diesel generator test, performed on 12/09/85 (reference Special Report dated 01/08/86), resulted in the inability of the diesel generator unit to attain its required load. The cause was determined to be a misadjusted governor setting. Upon further investigation this unsuccessful load attempt can definitely be attributed to operating error and pursuant to Regulatory Guide 1.108 Position C.2.e should not be considered a valid test or failure. The failure to start on 01/21/86 is the first valid failure within a total of 38 previous valid tests. The current surveillance test interval is therefore 31 days which conforms to the Technical Specifications.

Investigation

Maintenance personnel in the diesel generator room at the time of failure stated the diesel generator did not roll over

when the emergency start pushbutton was depressed. Upon initial investigation, all starting components appeared to be operating normally. The diesel generator was subsequently started twice for troubleshooting purposes. These two starts also uncovered no apparent starting system problems.

Corrective Action

Gulf States Utilities is implementing a Division I diesel generator reliability improvement program. The program will use the monthly surveillance tests to pinpoint potential areas of reliability improvement. The reliability improvement program has also scheduled inspections of key start system components during the next available plant outage.

Safety Assessment

The failure of the Division I diesel generator occurred with both Division II and III diesel generators operable and offsite power available. The failure of one diesel generator is part of the plant design basis as described in the Safety Analysis Report. Based on the above it is concluded that there were no safety consequences or implications to the public as a result of this event.