

In Reply Refer To:
Docket: 50-382/88-16
EA 88-144

MAY 27 1988

Louisiana Power & Light Company
ATTN: J. G. Dewease, Senior Vice President
Nuclear Operations
317 Baronne Street
P.O. Box 60340
New Orleans, Louisiana 70160

Gentlemen:

This refers to the inspection conducted by Messrs. W. F. Smith and T. R. Staker of this office during the period May 12-20, 1988, of activities authorized by NRC Operating License NPF-38 for Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3, and to the discussion of our findings with Mr. R. P. Barkhurst and other members of your staff at the conclusion of the inspection.

Areas examined during this inspection included the events which occurred and actions taken by LP&L personnel prior to, during and subsequent to the incident on May 12, 1988, when problems with refueling water level instruments twice resulted in a possible loss of shutdown cooling. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examination of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observations by the NRC inspectors. The inspection findings are documented in the enclosed inspection report.

During this inspection, it was found that certain of your activities appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements which resulted in consequences of potential safety significance. As discussed in our telephone conversation of May 26, 1988, with your staff, we have scheduled an enforcement conference in our Region IV offices in Arlington, Texas, on June 14, 1988. During this conference, you will be given an opportunity to discuss your understanding of these apparent violations, and to explain the circumstances surrounding the near loss of shutdown cooling events that occurred on May 12, 1988, and what actions you intend to take such that similar events will not occur in the future.

During this inspection, it was also found that certain of your activities appeared to deviate from commitments made to the NRC. It is requested that you respond to these deficiencies at the above conference, as they are related to the same subject.

<i>WFS</i> RIV:RI TStaker 5/27/88	<i>WFS</i> RIV:SRI WSmith 5/27/88	<i>WFS</i> C:RPD/A DChamberlain 5/27/88	<i>WFS</i> D:DRP LJCallan 5/27/88
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Should you have any questions concerning this inspection, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,

S/
L. J. Callan, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Enclosures:

1. Appendix A - NRC Inspection Report
50-382/88-16

cc w/enclosures:

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Louisiana Power & Light Company
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Middle South Services
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Louisiana Radiation Control Program Director

bcc to DMB (IE01)
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