

APR 16 1986

Docket No.: 50-382
License No.: NPF-38
EA 86-50

Louisiana Power & Light Company
ATTN: G. W. Muench, Director
Nuclear Operations
142 Delaronde Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70174

Gentlemen:

Subject: NOTICE OF VIOLATION AND PROPOSED IMPOSITION OF CIVIL PENALTY
(NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-382/86-02)

This refers to the inspection conducted January 1-31, 1986 of activities authorized by Operating License NPF-38 for the Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3 by the Senior Resident Inspector and other members of the Region IV staff. As a result of this inspection, violations of NRC requirements were identified. The inspection findings were documented in Inspection Report 50-382/86-02 which was sent to you on February 27, 1986. The violation considered for escalated enforcement was discussed with you at an enforcement conference held on March 5, 1986 in the Region IV office.

Violation I in the enclosed Notice of Violation and Proposed Imposition of Civil Penalty occurred when you changed operational modes on December 16, 1985 with an inoperable train of the containment spray system. Changing operational modes while in reliance on an action statement of a limiting condition for operation is a violation of Technical Specification 3.0.4. The root causes of this event were the failure to adequately control the condition and the status of remote valve operators and the failure to follow the appropriate annunciator procedures.

While we recognize that your staff originally identified and reported this violation, the NRC considers this event significant. The discharge header valve (CS-111B) for Train B of the Containment Spray system remained closed due to a disconnected reach rod. Our review indicated that some operations personnel knew that reach rods in this area were disconnected, yet no corrective actions were taken. Operations personnel also recognized an alarming annunciator on the N annunciator panel indicated that one of two valves (CS-111B or CS-117B) was closed, yet timely and appropriate response to the annunciator indication was not made. In addition, your subsequent review of this event was deficient in that the Licensee Event Report 382/85-55 that you submitted did not precisely describe when and how this abnormal plant condition was recognized.

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

8604300121 860416
PDR ADOCK 05000382
G PDR

To emphasize the need for you to vigorously pursue root causes of indicated abnormal plant conditions so that prompt and effective corrective actions can be taken, I have been authorized, after consultation with the Director, Office of Inspection and Enforcement, to issue the enclosed Notice of Violation and Proposed Imposition of Civil Penalty in the amount of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) for the violation described in the enclosed Notice. In accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedure for NRC Enforcement Actions," 10 CFR Part 2, Appendix C (1985), the violation described in the enclosed Notice has been categorized as a Severity Level III violation. The base civil penalty for a Severity Level III violation is \$50,000. Although the escalation and mitigation factors in the Enforcement Policy were considered, no adjustment in the civil penalty amount was deemed appropriate. Violation II involves inadequacies in certain maintenance procedures, and since it was of lesser significance, is categorized as a Severity Level IV violation.

You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. In your response, you should document the specific actions taken and any additional actions you plan to prevent recurrence. After reviewing your response to this Notice, including your proposed corrective actions, the NRC will determine whether further NRC enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with NRC regulatory requirements.

In accordance with Section 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

The responses directed by this letter and the enclosed Notice are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, PL 96-511.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:
Robert D. Martin

Robert D. Martin
Regional Administrator

Enclosure:
Notice of Violation and
Proposed Imposition
of Civil Penalty

cc:
See next page

Louisiana Power & Light Company

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cc w/encl:

Louisiana Power & Light Company

ATTN: G. E. Wuller, On-site

Licensing Coordinator

P. O. Box B

Killona, Louisiana 70066

Louisiana Power & Light Company

ATTN: R. P. Barkhurst, Plant Manager

P. O. Box B

Killona, Louisiana 70066

Middle South Services

ATTN: Mr. R. T. Lally

P. O. Box 61000

New Orleans, Louisiana 70161

Louisiana Power & Light Company

ATTN: K. W. Cook, Nuclear Support

and Licensing Manager

142 Delaronde Street

New Orleans, Louisiana 70174

Louisiana Radiation Control Program Director