



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

June 2, 1988

Docket No. 50-382

Mr. J. G. Dewease
Senior Vice President - Nuclear Operations
Louisiana Power and Light Company
317 Baronne Street, Mail Unit 17
New Orleans, Louisiana 70160

Dear Mr. Dewease:

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY WAIVER OF COMPLIANCE FROM TECHNICAL
SPECIFICATION 3.6.2.2 REGARDING FANS REQUIRED FOR CONTAINMENT
COOLING SYSTEMS - WATERFORD STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNIT 3

The staff has reviewed the Louisiana Power and Light Company (LP&L) request for a temporary waiver of compliance from Technical Specification (TS) 3.6.2.2 submitted in your May 31, 1988 letter. Our evaluation of this request and the supporting information supplied with it is presented below.

Technical Specification 3.6.2.2 requires two independent groups of Containment Cooling Systems with two fans in each group for Modes 1, 2, 3 and 4. The fans must be operable in the modes and when changing modes. On May 28, 1988, one fan was found to be inoperable and with damage to the motor windings that would prevent its immediate repair and return to service. We understand that effort to locate a qualified replacement fan motor has not been successful and although the motor has been shipped to a vendor for examination and repair, the return to service of the fan unit will delay plant startup. Further, we understand that without a temporary waiver or an emergency technical specification change, the Unit must begin an orderly shutdown from Mode 2. A delay while we prepare and issue the emergency technical specification change would require a number of surveillances to be repeated with no clear benefit to public safety.

The LP&L request for a temporary waiver would allow the Unit to continue operation in Mode 2 and to proceed to Mode 1 in an orderly startup. Continued safe operation is based on the results of reanalysis of limiting events using the same computer codes and models as was previously found acceptable for Waterford. The most limiting condition for peak containment pressure is the Main Steam Line Break (MSLB) at 75% power. For long term pressure reduction consideration, a Loss of Coolant Accident (LOCA) from 100% power is the most limiting. The reanalysis of these events demonstrate that only one fan in either containment cooling system group is required to maintain peak pressure within the design pressure of the containment following an accident. This assumes that the other fan in the other train is not available due to a single failure. This also forms the basis for your proposed technical specification change to reduce the number of fans in each group from two to one. The use of acceptable codes and models and the results of the LP&L analyses have been reviewed by the staff and we conclude that Waterford can safely proceed with startup.

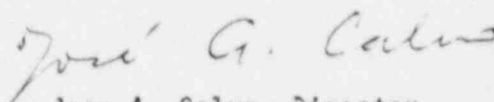
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Mr. J. G. Dewease

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This temporary waiver of compliance is in effect for 48 hours beginning at 5:00pm (EST) on May 31, 1988. We will advise you of our decision concerning the acceptability of your request for an emergency technical specification change once our review is completed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jose A. Calvo".

Jose A. Calvo, Director
Project Directorate - IV
Division of Reactor Projects - III,
IV, V and Special Projects
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

Mr. Jerrold G. Dewease
Louisiana Power & Light Company

Waterford 3

cc:

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Louisiana Power & Light Company
317 Baronne Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70112

Mr. J. G. Dewease

- 2 -

This temporary waiver of compliance is in effect for 48 hours beginning at 5:00pm (EST) on May 31, 1988. We will advise you of our decision concerning the acceptability of your request for an emergency technical specification change once our review is completed.

Sincerely,

/s/

Jose A. Calvo, Director
Project Directorate - IV
Division of Reactor Projects - III,
IV, V and Special Projects
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

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*CONCURRENCE
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From B. B. B.*