



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

ENCLOSURE

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

RIVER BEND STATION

GENERIC LETTER 83-28, ITEM 4.5.2

REACTOR TRIP SYSTEM RELIABILITY - ON-LINE TESTING

1.0 INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

Generic Letter 83-28 was issued by the NRC on July 8, 1983, indicating actions to be taken by applicants and licensees based on the generic implications of the Salem ATWS events. Item 4.5 states a staff position which requires on-line functional testing of the reactor trip system, including independent testing of the diverse trip features of the reactor trip breakers, for all plants. Item 4.5.2 requires applicants and licensees with plants not currently designed to permit this periodic on-line testing to justify not making modifications to permit such testing. By letters dated August 3, 1984, May 20, 1985 and September 22, 1987, the licensee, Gulf States Utilities Company, responded to the staff position regarding Item 4.5.2 of Generic Letter 83-28. Our review of these responses finds them to be acceptable.

2.0 EVALUATION

In their first two submittals dated August 3, 1984 and May 20, 1985, the licensee stated that River Bend was designed to permit on-line testing of the reactor trip system and that periodic on-line testing would be performed. However, they did not confirm that the Backup Scram Valves would be tested at each refueling outage as required by the staff position. In response to a staff request, the licensee committed, in their letter dated September 22, 1987, to functionally test these valves under a Surveillance Test Procedure but did not plan to change their Technical Specifications to require the testing. Instead they would use administrative controls to assure that this test will be implemented during subsequent refueling outages.

3.0 CONCLUSION

The staff concludes that this response is acceptable since the licensee has committed to functionally test the Backup Scram Valves at each refueling outage.

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