

U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT

REGION IV

Report No. 50-458/78-05

Docket No. 50-458

Category A2

Licensee: Gulf States Utilities Company  
Post Office Box 2951  
Beaumont, Texas 77704

Facility Name: River Bend Station, Unit No. 1

Inspection at: River Bend Site, West Feliciana Parish, Louisiana  
and the Corporate Office in Beaumont, Texas

Inspection conducted: September 5-8, 1978

Inspector: C. R. Oberg 9/22/78  
C. R. Oberg, Reactor Inspector Date

Approved: W. A. Crossman 9/22/78  
W. A. Crossman, Chief, Projects Section Date

Inspection Summary:

Inspection on September 5-8, 1978 (Report No. 50-458/78-05)

Areas Inspected: Routine, announced inspection related to safety related work on site; previously identified unresolved items; review of a previously identified construction deficiency report of nonconforming rebar; and storage of safety related components. This inspection involved twenty-nine inspector-hours by one NRC inspector.

Results: No items of noncompliance or deviations were identified.

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## DETAILS

### 1. Persons Contacted

#### Licensee

\*L. L. Humphreys, Senior Vice President, Energy Development  
J. H. Derr, Vice President, Engineering and Design  
C. E. Calvert, Manager, Power Plant Construction  
\*R. J. West, Manager, Quality Assurance  
\*K. W. Richardson, Manager, River Bend Project  
\*W. T. Crowe, Project Engineer  
J. E. Wimberly, Site Superintendent  
P. Cook, Senior QA Site Representative  
J. Normard, Civil Engineering Supervisor  
L. Smith, QA Representative  
M. Knobloch, Purchasing Agent

#### Stone and Webster Engineering Company

K. E. Conrad, Senior FQC Representative, Site  
D. Jones, FQC Representative, site

\*denotes those present at the exit interview.

### 2. Licensee Action on Previous Inspection Findings

(Open) Unresolved Item (50-458/78-01; 50-459/78-01): Plant Site Excavation and Backfill Maintenance. The specification relating to the site development work (210.100) is being revised. This item remains unresolved pending issuance of the revised specification and subsequent review by the IE inspector.

### 3. Site Tour

The IE inspector made a general tour of the site accompanied by a licensee representative. No safety related construction work was in progress except for receiving, storage and maintenance of equipment. New construction work continues to be delayed for business reasons.

The IE inspector noted that the excavation side walls have been further eroded by rain and that rain water had accumulated in the excavation. However, the standing water was in nonsafety related areas. The licensee representative stated that the excavation slopes would be reworked and any "contamination" (soil washed into excavation) would be removed. The procedures are presently being prepared. (See paragraph 2)

The IE inspector also noted that the soil under the dewatering pump supports has washed out. This may cause the pumps to become inoperative if the condition continues. The licensee representative stated that steps were underway to place the pumps and engines on concrete slabs which would prevent further erosion. After discussion of this item at the corporate office, the IE inspector determined that this item should be considered unresolved. This item will be reviewed in a future inspection.

The licensee representative informed the IE inspector that there are approximately eleven GSU professional personnel presently assigned on site. In addition the constructor, Stone & Webster, have approximately one-hundred nineteen personnel assigned, including four subcontractor personnel.

4. Construction Deficiency Report - Breakdown in Quality Assurance Program for Reinforcing Steel

- a. On November 1, 1977, Gulf States Utilities Company (GSU) reported to Region IV a potential breakdown in the quality assurance program for reinforcing steel supplied by Trans-America Steel Corporation (TASCO) of Welcome, North Carolina. Interim reports on this matter were transmitted to Region IV on November 29, 1977, March 23, 1978, and July 5, 1978. In this latter report, GSU stated that the final report would be submitted by December 31, 1978.

On August 31, 1978, an informational meeting was held in Bethesda to inform NRR and OIE of the status of the deficiency and to request clarification on QA program matters.

b. Review of Documentation

During this inspection, the IE inspector held discussions with licensee representatives; reviewed applicable correspondence, specification records and procedures; and inspected the rebar storage area on site. Documents examined include the following:

(1) Current, Applicable Procedures

- QAD 7.7 Receiving Inspection - General
- QAD 14.1 Inspection Report Preparation
- QS 7.1 Receiving Inspection
- QS 14.2 Inspection Report System
- QS 15.1 Nonconformance and Disposition (N&D) Report - Field Quality Application

QS 15.3 Risk Releases of Unsat/Nonconforming Material/  
Equipment

CMP 1.2 Receiving Material and Equipment

(2) Inspection Reports

IR S8100042 3/13/78

IR S8100058 3/21/78

IR S8100059 3/22/78

IR S8100061 3/22/78

(3) Nonconformance and Disposition (N&D) Reports

N&D No. FQC-S-8962 Nonconforming Rebar (Includes procedure  
for reidentification of rebar)

N&D No. FQC-S-8869 Standby Cooling Tower Rebar

(4) Specifications

Reinforcing Steel ASTM-A-615 - Grade 40

No. 210, GSU approved 10/23/74 with Amendments

(5) Purchase Orders

PO RBS-210.341-139 of 10/8/75 (S&W Cherry Hill to Trans  
America Steel Corporation) with Amendments 1 thru 13

(6) Audit Reports and Surveys

S&W Surveys of Trans America Steel Corporation, 3/13/75 and  
9/16/75

GSU QA Report on Surveillance of Florida Steel, 10/11-12/77

GSU QA Report TS-1 RBI of Supplier Surveillance, 10/28/77  
(on Trans America Steel Corporation)

S&W Audit - Trans America Steel Corporation 12/20-22/78

c. Storage of Rebar on Site

The IE inspector determined that the rebar presently on site  
is appropriately controlled and identified in a "Hold" status.

Construction on the power plant has been halted, and no rebar is being used on site. The licensee representative stated that the solution to the reported construction deficiency will include final disposition of the nonconforming rebar and that the deficiency would be resolved prior to any commencement of construction activity involving reinforcing steel.

No items of noncompliance or deviations were identified.

5. Storage of Safety Related Components

The IE inspector made an inspection of the warehouse to examine the storage and preservation of safety related material and components which had been received on site. The licensee is continuing work on the warehouse arrangements. The IE inspector observed that safety related materials were properly identified and stored. Adequate controls for warehouse access are in effect. Storage Level I facilities are complete, and the environmental control system was in the process of being checked out.

No items of noncompliance or deviations were identified.

6. Unresolved Items

Unresolved items are matters about which more information is required in order to ascertain whether they are acceptable items, items of noncompliance, or deviations. An unresolved item disclosed during the inspection is discussed in paragraph 3.

7. Exit Interview

The IE inspector met with the licensee representative (denoted in paragraph 1) at the conclusion of the inspection on September 8, 1978. The IE inspector summarized the purpose and scope of the inspection and the findings.

The IE inspector stated that the GSU resolution of three items (given below) would be further examined in subsequent inspections. These items have been identified by the licensee in the documentation relating to the reinforcing steel deficiency report.

- a. Reliability of inspection reports (No. 26 & 27) made on steel at Florida Steel fabricating plant by a S&W QCP inspector on October 13, 1977.
- b. Substantiating the traceability of material which was verified by monitoring material being fabricated for other nuclear plants at Georgetown Steel Company.

- c. Identifying the method used by TASC0 to ensure that a QA program was established in Bethlehem Steel Corporation, Steeltown, PA. (Bethlehem Steel supplied rebar to Cives Steel Corporation (CIVES) and Pittsburgh Bridge & Iron Corporation (PBI) for fabrication of radial shear bar assemblies.)

The licensee representative acknowledged understanding of the findings.