

March 23, 1987

Docket No.: 50-416

Mr. Oliver D. Kingsley, Jr.
Vice President, Nuclear Operations
System Energy Resources, Inc.
Post Office Box 23054
Jackson, Mississippi 39205

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Dear Mr. Kingsley:

SUBJECT: SER RELATING TO HUMPHREY CONCERNS

RE: GRAND GULF NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 1

By letter dated May 8, 1982, Mr. John Humphrey, a former General Electric Company engineer, notified the licensee (Mississippi Power & Light Company prior to December 20, 1986, now Systems Energy Resources, Inc.) of certain safety concerns regarding the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station Mark III containment design (Humphrey Concerns). The licensee provided responses to the Humphrey Concerns which were evaluated by the staff in the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station Safety Evaluation Report (NUREG 0831) Supplement Nos. 2, 3 and 4. In SSER 4 staff concluded based on its review to date that adequate safety margin in the GGNS Mark III containment existed to permit full power operation, pending completion of the staff's confirmatory review of the issue. The licensee has provided additional submittals regarding the Humphrey Concerns in response to requests by the staff for additional information.

The NRC staff has reviewed the information submitted by the licensee as well as generic submittals regarding Mark III containments. The staff's safety evaluation report (SER) is enclosed. The staff concludes that all the Humphrey Concerns regarding the Mark III containment design have been satisfactorily resolved for GGNS-1. As a part of this resolution, the licensee will continue to prohibit the use of the RHR steam condensing mode until design modifications are made to eliminate the routing of non-condensable gases from the condensing steam to the RHR discharge line. (See Pages 8-11 of the enclosed SER).

Sincerely,
Original Signed by

Lester L. Kintner, Project Manager
BWR Project Directorate No. 4
Division of BWR Licensing

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

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LKintner:ca
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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

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Vice President, Nuclear Operations
System Energy Resources, Inc.
Post Office Box 23054
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "L L Kintner", is written above the typed name.

Lester L. Kintner, Project Manager
BWR Project Directorate No. 4
Division of BWR Licensing

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

Mr. Oliver D. Kingsley, Jr.
System Energy Resources, Inc.

Grand Gulf Nuclear Station (GGNS)

cc:

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