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Al Quinam Cavanaugh. III Senior Vice Preside System Executive - Nuclear

June 30, 1989

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Mr. Samuel J. Chilk Secretary U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D. C. 20555

Attention: Docketing and Service Branch

Re: Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Acceptance of Products Purchased for Use in Nuclear Power Plant Structures, Systems and Components 54 FED. Reg. 9229 - March 6, 1989

DOCKET NUMBER PR

(54FR 9229)

Dear Mr. Chilk:

The following comments are submitted on behalf of Entergy Corporation, Inc. (System Energy Resources, Inc., Louisiana Power & Light Company, and Arkansas Power & Light Company) in response to the request of the U. S. Regulatory Commission (NRC) for comments on the NRC Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking entitled "Acceptance of Products Purchased for use in Nuclear Power Plant Structures, Systems and Components" (54 FED. Reg. 9229 - March 6, 1989).

The Entergy Corporation shares the NRC's concern with fraudulent, counterfeit or substandard components being used in commercial nuclear power plants. We believe that the potential for fraudulent or counterfeit components can best be reduced through improvements to the overall procurement process used in the nuclear industry. Because of the significant industry efforts already underway to address procurement issues, we do not believe that issuance of a rule or modifications to existing regulations would provide the most effective courses of action at this time. We believe the ongoing industry improvements should first be effected, then assessed for effectiveness following a reasonable time period.

I have served as Chairman of the Nuclear Plant Equipment Procurement (NPEP) Working Group of NUMARC, which is coordinating industry activities to evaluate and improve utility procurement practices. I am convinced that the industry's efforts toward improvement provide the most appropriate mechanism to address the concerns expressed by the NRC.

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NUMARC has provided specific responses to each of the issues raised by the Advanced Notice of Public Rulemaking. Their comments accurately reflect the views of Entergy Corporation and are fully supported by us.

Sincerely, C 2a W. Cavanaugh, III

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