



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

November 8, 1999

Docket  
file

Mr. Randall K. Edington  
Vice President - Operations  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
River Bend Station  
P. O. Box 220  
St. Francisville, LA 70775

SUBJECT: RIVER BEND STATION, UNIT 1 - REVISIONS TO THE UFSAR - PAST AND  
FUTURE COMPLIANCE WITH 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4) (TAC NO. MA3129)

Dear Mr. Edington:

Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), Subsection 50.71(e)(4) specifies the schedular requirements whereby licensees are to submit revisions to their Updated Final Safety Analysis Reports (UFSARs). It requires revisions to be made "...annually or 6 months after each refueling outage provided the interval between successive updates does not exceed 24 months." In a 1997 survey we found numerous incidents of noncompliance by licensees of both single- and multi-unit plants with this schedular requirement. In many cases, licensees for multi-unit sites were basing their UFSAR submissions on the outage schedule of one unit.

We understand that some confusion about the proper interpretation of 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4) may have been caused by an NRC staff letter to Commonwealth Edison Company (ComEd) dated June 15, 1993, which endorsed a submission schedule proposed by ComEd for its plants. Neither ComEd's proposed schedule nor the staff's endorsement were in literal compliance with 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4). Nevertheless, many licensees adopted the staff position expressed in the June 15, 1993, letter and thus deviated from the schedular requirements of this regulation. Recently, the staff granted exemptions to the ComEd plants. The transmittal letter (D. Skay to O. D. Kingsley, dated July 27, 1999) states that "[t]his [Skay] letter and the enclosed exemptions supersede our letter of June 15, 1993."

The schedule requirements whereby licensees submit revisions to their UFSARs (or Updated Safety Analysis Reports) are contained in 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4), as modified by an exemption to the regulation. We note that you have not requested a schedule-related exemption to 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4) for the River Bend Station (RBS). Therefore, the purpose of this letter is to simply reiterate the aforementioned requirements and to advise you that we will exercise enforcement discretion, in accordance with Section VII.B.6 of the NRC Enforcement Policy, for any incidents of past violation of 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4). In the future we will enforce the schedule requirements as prescribed, or as modified by an exemption for RBS.

PDR ADOCK.

DF01

Randall K. Edington

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November 8, 1999

There is no need to respond to this letter. If you have any questions, please call me at 301-415-1324, or through the internet at [rx@nrc.gov](mailto:rx@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Robert J. Fretz, Project Manager, Section 1  
Project Directorate IV & Decommissioning  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-458

cc w/encl: See next page

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River Bend Station

cc:

Winston & Strawn  
1400 L Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20005-3502

Manager - Licensing  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
River Bend Station  
P. O. Box 220  
St. Francisville, LA 70775

Senior Resident Inspector  
P. O. Box 1050  
St. Francisville, LA 70775

President of West Feliciana  
Police Jury  
P. O. Box 1921  
St. Francisville, LA 70775

Regional Administrator, Region IV  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000  
Arlington, TX 76011

Ms. H. Anne Plettinger  
3456 Villa Rose Drive  
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

Administrator  
Louisiana Radiation Protection Division  
P. O. Box 82135  
Baton Rouge, LA 70884-2135

Wise, Carter, Child & Caraway  
P. O. Box 651  
Jackson, MS 39205

Executive Vice President and  
Chief Operating Officer  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
P. O. Box 31995  
Jackson, MS 39286

General Manager - Plant Operations  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
River Bend Station  
P. O. Box 220  
St. Francisville, LA 70775

Director - Nuclear Safety  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
River Bend Station  
P. O. Box 220  
St. Francisville, LA 70775

Vice President - Operations Support  
Entergy Operations, Inc.  
P. O. Box 31995  
Jackson, MS 39286-1995

Attorney General  
State of Louisiana  
P. O. Box 94095  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9095

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