

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

November 15, 1999

**SUBJECT: RIVER BEND STATION, UNIT 1 - THERMO-LAG RELATED AMPACITY DERATING ISSUES (TAC NOS. MA2242 and MA6041)**

Dear Mr. Edington:

By letter dated November 2, 1998, Entergy Operations, Inc. (EOI) requested that the staff clarify its Safety Evaluation (SE) issued September 3, 1998, related to cable ampacity due to application of Thermo-Lag fire barrier for River Bend Station, Unit 1 (RBS). The licensee stated that the conclusion of the SE implies that other models not addressed in the evaluation are unacceptable.

The staff has reviewed the issues raised in your November 2, 1998, letter and has revised the subject SE in order to provide greater clarification. As stated in our original SE, there are no ampacity derating issues as identified in Generic Letter 92-08 for RBS. The Thermo-Lag 330-1 fire barrier configurations that were the subject of the RBS thermal model were removed from service and the subject cables were evaluated for age-related degradation through the measurement of cable indentation. The results of our review are documented in the enclosed SE.

This completes our action under TAC Nos. MA2242 and MA6041.

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

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

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