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W3F1-2001-0043  
A4.05  
PR

April 27, 2001

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
ATTN: Document Control Desk  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Subject: Waterford 3 SES  
Docket No. 50-382  
License No. NPF-38  
Annual Environmental Operating Report - 2000

Gentlemen:

Attached is the 2000 Annual Environmental Operating Report for the subject facility. This report is submitted pursuant to section 5.4.1 of the Environmental Protection Plan (Appendix B to the Operating License).

Should you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Oscar Pipkins at (504) 739-6707. This submittal does not contain commitments.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "A.J. Harris".

A.J. Harris  
Director  
Nuclear Safety & Regulatory Affairs

AJH/OPP/gh  
Attachment

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cc: w/attachment  
E.W. Merschoff, NRC Region IV  
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NRC Resident Inspectors Office

## WATERFORD 3 SES 2000 ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL OPERATING REPORT

This report describes implementation of the Environmental Protection Plan (EPP) for the calendar year 2000, and provides the information required by the EPP.

A. Summaries and analyses of the results of the environmental protection activities required by EPP subsection 4.2:

This section of the EPP provides protection of the two cultural resource areas on the Waterford 3 site. There were no activities which affected either the Plantation Overseer's House site or the Plantation Quarter's site, both eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, during this reporting period.

B. EPP noncompliance's and the corrective actions taken to remedy them:

There were no noncompliance's with the requirements of the EPP during the reporting period.

C. A discussion of changes in station design or operation, tests, or experiments made in accordance with the EPP subsection 3.1 which involved a potential significant unreviewed environmental question:

During the reporting period, three station changes or evolutions were reviewed to ensure that a potential significant unreviewed environmental question did not exist:

An Environmental Evaluation (00-009) was performed during a revision (4) to a plant modification that provides a new discharge flow path from the Dry Cooling Tower area sumps to the Circulating Water system, where greater dilution of the effluent can be attained. The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality had previously approved the new discharge path. Revision 4 of this modification increased the required capacity of the sump pumps. Since the new discharge path had obtained prior approval, and since the modification would result in a reduced impact to the environment due to the greater dilution factor provided by the Mississippi River, this proposed change was found to not cause an unreviewed environmental question.

The Steam Generator Chemical Cleaning Project, which was performed at Waterford 3 during October, 2000, included three separate Environmental Evaluations (00-051, 00-052 and 00-053). Each of these are included in this discussion. Waterford 3 initiated planning and preparations approximately one year ago in order to perform Steam generator chemical cleaning during Refueling Outage 10. A chemical solution at high temperature is used to remove corrosion deposits from the secondary side of the steam generators. The project included facilities for handling and injection of chemicals, monitoring the cleaning process and for monitoring, collection, processing, discharge, and off-site disposal of the wastes. Effluent releases and exposures for offsite personnel as well as onsite personnel were evaluated to ensure that any exposures would be within limits. Other items evaluated included: preventative spill measures and containment for the cleaning and waste processing evolutions, chemical safety and prevention of environmental damage due to accidental chemical release, and waste handling to prevent inadvertent discharge. Permits or variances from the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality were requested and obtained as required. The project complied with all NRC, state and EPA environmental regulations. Thus, the steam generator chemical cleaning project was determined not to cause an unreviewed environmental question.

During steam generator chemical cleaning, valve leakage caused cleaning chemicals to enter the condensate and feedwater systems. The plant's wastewater containing the chemical contaminants could not be neutralized to meet discharge requirements at Outfall 104 (Turbine Building Drains / Oily Water Separator). Portable collection tanks and temporary hoses and pumps were procured and the out of specification waste water was directed to them. An environmental evaluation (00-064) was performed for the temporary collection and storage of this waste water. Spill prevention measures were evaluated to ensure that adequate protection of the environment was provided. These measures included continuous presence of personnel and operators while pumping operations were in progress and contingency plan to isolate runoff with earthen dams, if needed, for a large volume spill. Radioactive materials (tritium), if released, would be well within any effluent limitations. Thus, the temporary on-site storage of turbine building drain waste water in temporary tanks was determined not to cause an unreviewed environmental question.

D. Nonroutine reports submitted in accordance with subsection 5.4.2:

There were no nonroutine reports submitted in accordance with subsection 5.4.2 during the reporting period.