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GULF STATES UTILITIES COMPANY

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July 10, 1979

RBG - 6548
File G9.5

Mr. Karl V. Seyfrit, Director
Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region IV
611 Ryan Plaza Drive
Suite 1000
Arlington, TX 76011

Dear Mr. Seyfrit:

River Bend Station
Refer to: RIV
Docket Nos. 50-458/I&E Bulletin 79-02
50-459/I&E Bulletin 79-02

In response to your letter of March 8, 1979 and your revision of June 21, 1979, we have conducted an examination of the River Bend design to determine our actual and potential use of pipe support bases using concrete expansion anchor bolts. At this early stage of construction no pipe supports are in place in the field. Also, the River Bend design uses embedded plates in concrete walls for pipe supports, thus base plates with concrete expansion bolts (as addressed by I&E Bulletin 79-02) are not in our present design.

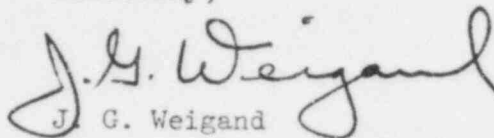
However, base plates with concrete expansion bolts may be incorporated as an alternate means of supporting Category I pipes should a requirement at a later time dictate additional supports. In the event that these plates should be used as an alternate means of supporting Category I piping, the effects of plate flexibility will be accounted for in the design. Our A/E has an approved procedure developed on the basis of finite element analysis which considers base plate flexibility. If and when these base plates are required, the shell-type anchors would not be used. Verification of actual installed pipe supports, base plates, and anchor designs will be provided in the FSAR.

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This completes our response to I&E Bulletin 79-02.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. G. Weigand". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

J. G. Weigand
General Manager - Nuclear Projects

SBP/sp

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