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P. O. BOX 1640, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39205

DONALD C. LUTKEN
PRESIDENT

September 11, 1979

Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Mr. Denton:

SUBJECT: Grand Gulf Nuclear Station
File 0260/0274/0630/0606
Safety Review Schedule for the
Grand Gulf Nuclear Station
AECM-79/101

On August 21, 1979, your Schedule Assessment Team visited our Grand Gulf Nuclear Station site to review construction and startup progress since their last visit in June, 1978. They held an exit briefing on August 22, 1979. Your team expressed the following thoughts:

1. Acknowledgement that we have made a strong commitment to achieve fuel load in October, 1980, and have implemented several programs to accelerate activities that are behind schedule to fulfill this goal;
2. Acknowledgement that we have achieved impressive construction progress in the past 15 months and have solved the problems we had in mid-1978;
3. Belief that our pre-op and startup schedule is ambitious by comparison to performance of other plants and not realistic; and
4. Belief that a realistic fuel load for Grand Gulf Unit #1 is April, 1981.

Naturally, the conclusions of your Schedule Assessment Team are of great concern to us since we have demonstrated an ability to exceed most other plants' construction progress and have accomplished what we predicted in June, 1978. We will continue to commit whatever resources are necessary to achieve a fuel load in October, 1980, since our system reserves will be below the desired level of 16% without Grand Gulf Unit 1 in service.

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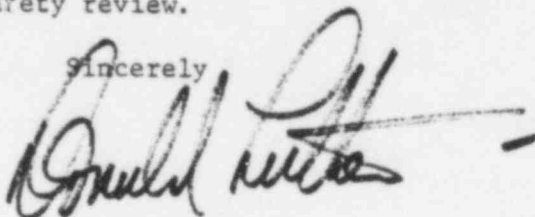
Mr. Harold R. Denton
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

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AECM-79/101

I request an opportunity to meet with you to discuss these issues and obtain a better understanding of the Regulatory Staff's plans for accomplishing the Grand Gulf safety review.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Donald R. Lutz", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

DCL:dwe

cc: Mr. R. B. McGehee
Mr. T. B. Conner
Mr. N. L. Stampley
Mr. J. G. Davis, NRC

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