

GULF STATES UTILITIES COMPANY

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June 22, 1981

RBG- 10,606
File No. G9.5

Mr. Robert L. Tedesco
Assistant Director for Licensing
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Division of Licensing
Washington, D. C. 20555



Dear Mr. Tedesco:

River Bend Station Units 1 and 2
Docket Nos. 50-458 and 50-459
Ultimate Capacity Analysis Of Mark III Containments

This letter is in response to your March 30, 1981 letter concerning "Ultimate Capacity Analysis Of Mark III Containments."

An analysis of the effect of hydrogen concentrations in the containment in excess of the current 10 CFR 50.44 level has not been undertaken at this time. Currently the River Bend Station design relies on a drywell-containment mixing system for near term mitigation and on the use of the hydrogen recombiners installed in the containment for long term mitigation. The description of these systems are given in Section 6.2.5 of the Final Safety Analysis Report. Also Section 6.2.1 indicates that the containment design pressure is 15 psig.

At this time Gulf States Utilities will initiate a program to determine the static pressure retaining capacity of the containment.

Gulf States Utilities has recently participated in several meetings with other BWR/6 Mark III Containment Owners for the purpose of exchanging information with regard to the proposed

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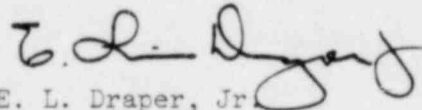
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rulemaking concerning interim requirements related to hydrogen control and certain degraded core considerations (45 FR 65466). A second program aimed at mitigating containment hydrogen concentrations resulting from a 75% metal-water reaction is being discussed at this time.

The results of our static determination and a status of our dynamic program will be provided to you by March 1, 1982.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "E. L. Draper, Jr.", with a stylized, flowing script.

E. L. Draper, Jr.
Vice President
Nuclear Technology

ELD/RJK/kt