



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P. O. BOX 60267
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160

IN REPLY REFER TO
LMNPD-RE

2 July 1981

Mr. Frank J. Miraglia, Acting Chief
Licensing Branch No. 3
Division of Licensing
US Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555



Dear Mr. Miraglia:

This is in reply to your letter, dated 8 May 1981, to Mr. Bruce Barrett, US Department of Commerce, requesting review and comments on the Draft Environmental Statement (DES) related to the operation of the Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit No. 3.

We have reviewed the document in accordance with our areas of responsibility and expertise as outlined in the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations, Title 49, CFR, Part 1500, published in the "Federal Register" dated 29 November 1978; and US Army Corps of Engineers administrative procedures for permit activities in navigable waters or ocean waters, Title 33, CFR, Parts 320-329, published in the "Federal Register" dated 19 July 1977.

We have the following comments to offer:

a. The effect of plant operation on water temperatures is discussed in Section 4.2.2.2 (page 4-3). The effect of these increased temperatures on reactor coolant chemicals (Section 4.2.4.1, page 4-10), however, is not discussed. Temperature changes influence river pH and alkalinity through shifts in the chemical equilibria of carbonate, sulfate, borate, and phosphate. Changes in DO and additions of boron and sulfates (Table 4.3) further complicate the situation. The carbonate equilibrium is particularly important since CO₂ levels help determine the degree of eutrophication and the health of aquatic animals. The impact of Waterford 3 on pH and alkalinity along with the resulting changes in the chemical equilibria should be fully discussed in this DES.

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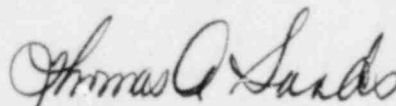
Mr. Frank J. Miraglia

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b. In Table 1.1, the US Army Corps of Engineers permit is dated 4/77. According to our records, this should be 9/77.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this DES.

Sincerely,



THOMAS A. SANDS
Colonel, CE
Commander and District Engineer

Copy Furnished:
Environmental Protection Agency
Room 537 West Tower
401 M Street, SW Mail Code A-104
Washington, DC 20460