



**GULF STATES UTILITIES COMPANY**

RIVER BEND STATION POST OFFICE BOX 220 ST FRANCISVILLE, LOUISIANA 70775  
AREA CODE 504 635-6094 346-8651

July 6, 1990  
RBG-33,167  
File No. G1.11.2.1

Ms. Maureen O'Neill, Assistant Secretary  
Office of Water Resources  
Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality  
Post Office Box 44091, Capitol Station  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4091

Attention: Surveillance Section

Dear Ms. O'Neill:

This letter is a written follow-up to the telephone notification, made at 8:19 a.m. on Monday, June 25, 1990, of a sodium hypochlorite spill at River Bend Station.

A thermoplastic hypochlorite storage tank used for "shock chlorination" of cooling water developed a small crack resulting in leakage of between 30 and 50 gallons of 15% sodium hypochlorite to the adjacent ground. The tank's leakage, approximately 100 cc/minute, seeped through a construction joint between the tank's slab and curb, onto the ground. We contained the accumulating liquid with absorbant and a sand dike to prevent any chance of the liquid's migration to storm drains. Messrs. Christopher Simms and Rich Johnson of your Hazardous Waste Enforcement and Emergency Response Sections inspected the incident later that morning and expressed satisfaction with our efforts to mitigate this situation. Coincidentally, on the morning of June 26, 1990, Mr. Scott Knaus of your Water Quality Section performed a compliance audit of our facility, during which he observed that spill cleanup efforts were underway.

Our Mr. Mike Harrington contacted Mr. David Brightbill of your Water Quality Surveillance Section on July 29 to give an interim report of cleanup activities and to notify that cleanup may not be completed until after July 5, and to request permission to submit this letter by July 6. With Mr. Brightbill's concurrence, we removed the contents of the storage tank and rinsed both the tank and the construction joint with fresh water. We pumped the rinsings to the cooling water system, and removed the contaminated soil for disposal at an approved disposal facility.

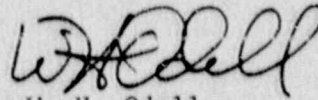
To prevent recurrence, the plastic tank has been removed from service. The system used for required continuous low-level chlorination of our service cooling water is being modified to accomodate intermittant shock chlorination of our cooling towers.

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I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under the direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

Sincerely



W. H. Odell

Manager - Oversight  
River Bend Nuclear Group

<sup>MM</sup>  
WHO/LAE/MAH/re

xc: Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections  
Hazardous Substance Control Section  
Right to Know Unit  
Post Office Box 66614  
Baton Rouge, La. 70896

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

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000  
Arlington, Texas 76011

Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Resident Inspector  
P. O. Box 1051  
St. Francisville, La. 70775