



GULF STATES UTILITIES COMPANY

RIVER BEND STATION POST OFFICE BOX 220 ST. FRANCISVILLE, LOUISIANA 70775
AREA CODE 504 635-8094 346-8851

August 28, 1990
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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

Gentlemen:

River Bend Station - Unit 1
Docket No. 50-458

Gulf States Utilities Company (GSU) hereby files an application to amend the River Bend Station - Unit 1 Technical Specifications, Appendix A to Facility Operating License NPF-47, pursuant to 10CFR50.90. This application is filed to revise the requirements on the Facility Review Committee (FRC) and Nuclear Review Board (NRB) composition. This request will not change the requirements on expertise, training and functions for these groups. The Attachment to this letter and the Enclosure provide the justifications and proposed revisions to the Technical Specifications.

Your prompt attention to this application is appreciated.

Sincerely,

T. F. Plunkett
General Manager-Business & Oversight
River Bend Nuclear Group

TFP/LAE/LLD/EMB/ns

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

STATE OF LOUISIANA)

PARISH OF WEST FELICIANA)

In the Matter of)

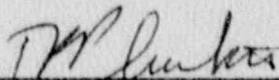
GULF STATES UTILITIES COMPANY)

Docket No. 50-458

(River Bend Station - Unit 1)


AFFIDAVIT

T. F. Plunkett, being duly sworn, states that he is a General Manager - Business Systems and Oversight for Gulf States Utilities Company; that he is authorized on the part of said company to sign and file with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission the documents attached hereto; and that all such documents are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.



T. F. Plunkett

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and Parish above named, this 28th day of August, 1990. My Commission expires with Life.



Claudia F. Hurst
Notary Public in and for
West Feliciana Parish, Louisiana

ATTACHMENT

**GULF STATES UTILITIES COMPANY
RIVER BEND STATION
DOCKET 50-458/LICENSE NO. NPF-47**

**FACILITY REVIEW COMMITTEE
(90-13)**

LICENSING DOCUMENTS INVOLVED:

Technical Specification 6.5.1.2 , pages 6-7 to 6-8
Technical Specification 6.5.3.2 , page 6-10
Technical Specification 6.5.3.6 , page 6-11

REASON FOR REQUEST:

This proposed change is being requested in accordance with 10CFR50.90. Due to recent organizational changes within the River Bend Nuclear Group (RBNG), the Facility Review Committee (FRC) and the Nuclear Review Board (NRB) membership contained in the Technical Specifications is not accurate. The proposed change would delete the specific composition list for the FRC and NRB and replace it with general statements defining levels of technical, operational and nuclear management expertise for the FRC and NRB memberships. The NRB quorum requirement is also being revised.

The proposed change would reduce the administrative burden on the NRC staff and GSU to submit a Technical Specification change each time an FRC or NRB member or title changes. Administrative controls within RBNG will ensure there is no reduction in the level of expertise or training of members serving on the FRC or the NRB and that the review functions of these operational review groups are not diminished.

DESCRIPTION:

As a result of recent organizational changes at RBS and identification of unnecessary restrictions on membership and quorum requirements for the review organizations GSU proposes to revise the requirements of specifications 6.5.1 and 6.5.3.

The regulatory basis for these specifications are found in 10CFR50.40(b) and implemented through ANSI N18.7-1976/ANS-3.2. ANSI N18.7-1976/ANS-3.2 outlines requirements for review activities of the onsite operating organization and the independent review program. This standard requires that personnel assigned to perform operational reviews have technical expertise in the areas reviewed. The acceptance criteria of the Standard Review Plan (NUREG-0800) Section 13.4 provides the following guidance for:

1) Plant Staff Review (FRC);

Scope of this review should include that of Section 4.4 of ANSI N18.7 (ANS 3.2), as endorsed by regulatory Guide 1.33.

Organizational arrangements should provide for interdisciplinary reviews of subject matter.

Qualification levels for plant staff personnel performing review should be at least equivalent to those described in Section 4.4 of ANSI N18.1 as endorsed by Regulatory Guide 1.8.

Review activities should be documented and results forwarded to appropriate members of management.

2) Independent Review (NRB);

Provisions for an independent review should meet that described in section 4.3 of ANSI N18.7.

The qualification requirements for those performing these reviews should meet or exceed those described in section 4.7 of ANSI/ANS-3.1-1978 and the regulatory position of Regulatory Guide 1.8.

The present specification 6.5.1.2 requires the FRC to be composed of the following:

Chairman : Assistant Plant Manager - Technical Services
Member : Assistant Plant Manager - Operations & Radwaste
Member : Assistant Plant Manager - Maintenance
Member : Operations Supervisor
Member : Director - Radiological Program
Member : Reactor Engineering Supervisor
Member : Control Systems Supervisor
Member : Chemistry Supervisor
Member : Process Systems Supervisor

Presently technical specification 6.5.1.3 requires the FRC chairman to appoint all alternate members in writing to serve on a temporary basis. This specification also limits the attendance to no more than two alternates as voting members in FRC activities at any one time. Also specification 6.5.1.5 requires the quorum of the FRC be limited to the Chairman or his designated alternate and four members including no more than two alternates. The result of these restrictions is to limit the voting membership on some issues when qualified members are available and may have expertise in the related subject(s). Additionally due to recent changes to the RBS organization the title of the FRC Chairman has changed to APM-System Engineering.

To allow qualified members or alternate(s) to participate and vote on appropriate issues GSU proposes to change these requirements to remove the limits on alternate attendance in FRC activities based on the following discussions. The FRC membership shall be the Plant Manager's first level of management. The remainder of the voting membership shall be composed from supervisory or senior staff with overall plant experience within the site organization. These individuals shall be assigned in writing by the chairperson and will meet the applicable ANS and ANSI qualifications. To reduce future changes to the specification upon changes to the organization GSU proposes the chairperson be assigned in writing by the Plant Manager. The individual will be chosen from the first management level that directly reports to the Plant Manager. GSU believes this change is consistent with guidance provided in Generic Letter 88-06 which requires only aspects of the organization not covered by other requirements remain in the license.

This change will provide the lines of authority and responsibility of the membership and quorum requirements of the FRC and NRB as required in the GL.

The results of these proposed changes will allow the quorum of the FRC to consist of the Chairperson or his designated alternate and four qualified and approved staff members. The change will allow the Chairperson to ensure necessary expertise is available for FRC activities while maintaining the flexibility of a minimum quorum. This change will also eliminate the need for specific titles without compromising the level of expertise and competence required for the proper review of operational phase activities. The representation of Licensing and Quality Assurance in FRC activities will continue with this change and membership by these organizations may be included in the future as deemed appropriate by GSU. The other technical specifications associated with the FRC such as meeting frequency, audit, review areas and records will remain unchanged.

Technical Specification 6.5.3.2 presently requires the NRB to be composed of:

Chairman	:	Manager--River Bend Oversight
Member and Vice Chairman	:	Manager--Quality Assurance
Member	:	Manager--Administration
Member	:	Manager--Design Engineering, Technical Services Dept.
Member	:	Manager--Engineering
Member	:	Plant Manager
Member	:	Assistant Plant Manager--Operations & Radwaste
Member	:	Director--Design Engineering
Member	:	Director--Nuclear Licensing
Member	:	Outage Manager
Member	:	Director--Joint Ownership Participation
Member	:	Director--Plant Oversight

The proposed change to specification 6.5.3.2 is to allow the NRB to be comprised of at least nine but not more than thirteen individuals who possess the necessary expertise to provide the independent review and audit function of areas identified in Section 6.5.3.1. The NRB Chairperson will continue to approve the permanent NRB membership based on nominations from the Senior Vice-President RBNG. Technical Specification 6.5.3.6 requires the quorum of the NRB necessary for the performance of the NRB review and audit functions of these technical specifications to consist of the Chairman or the Vice-Chairman and at least six NRB members including no more than two alternates. No more than a minority of the quorum shall have line responsibility for operation of the unit. GSU also proposes Specification 6.5.3.6 be revised to allow the necessary quorum of the NRB to consist of the Chairperson or the Vice Chairperson and at least a majority of the NRB members including alternates. The requirement that no more than a minority of the quorum shall have line responsibility for the operation of the unit will be retained.

This change will also eliminate the need for specific titles without compromising the level of expertise and competence required for the proper review of operational phase activities. The other technical specifications associated with the NRB such as alternates, meeting frequency, audit/review areas and records will remain unchanged. In

addition to the changes to composition for the FRC and NRB, GSU requests to remove requirements to have NRB meetings; "at least once per calendar quarter the initial year of unit operation following fuel load." The unit is in the third fuel cycle and fifth year of operation, therefore this item no longer applies.

These proposed changes do not diminish GSU's ability to meet the present acceptance criteria. Administrative controls are currently in place to control membership, qualification and review requirements for both the onsite review activity (FRC) and the independent review program (NRB). Training requirements for the NRB and FRC membership will continue in accordance with the current training program.

NO SIGNIFICANT HAZARDS CONSIDERATION :

The Commission has provided standards for determining whether a significant hazards consideration exists (10 CFR 50.92(c)). A proposed amendment to an operating license for a facility involves no significant hazards consideration if operation of the facility in accordance with the proposed amendment would not: (1) involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated; or (2) create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated; or (3) involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety.

GSU provides the following discussion regarding the above three criteria:

Criterion 1 : Operation of the facility in accordance with the proposed amendment would not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated.

The proposed changes are administrative in nature and do not affect assumptions contained in the safety analyses nor do they affect technical specifications that preserve safety analysis assumptions. Additionally, these changes do not modify the physical design and/or operation of the plant. Therefore, the proposed changes do not affect the probability or consequences of accidents previously analyzed.

Criterion 2 : Use of the revised specifications would not create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated.

The changes being proposed are administrative in nature and will not lead to material procedural changes or to physical modifications to the facility. Therefore, the proposed changes do not create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident.

Criterion 3 : Use of the modified specification would not involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety.

The changes being proposed are administrative in nature and do not relate to or modify the safety margin defined in or

required and maintained by technical specifications. The deletion of the specific composition list of the FRC and NRB members will not decrease the effectiveness of these organizations. Administrative controls are in place to control membership, qualifications and review requirements for both the onsite review activity and the independent review program.

Based on the above, it is determined that the proposed change does not (1) involve significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated, (2) create the probability of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated, or (3) involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety and therefore, does not involve a significant hazard consideration.

REVISED TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS:

The requested revision is provided in the Enclosure.

SCHEDULE FOR ATTAINING COMPLIANCE:

River Bend Station is currently in compliance with the applicable technical specification requirements.

NOTIFICATION OF STATE PERSONNEL:

A copy of this amendment request has been provided to the State of Louisiana, Department of Environmental Quality - Nuclear Energy Division.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT APPRAISAL:

Gulf States Utilities Company (GSU) has reviewed the proposed license amendment against the criteria of 10CFR51.22 for environmental considerations. The proposed changes do not involve a significant hazards consideration, nor increase the types and amounts of effluents that may be released offsite, nor significantly increase individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposures. Based on the foregoing, GSU concludes that the proposed change meets the criteria given in 10CFR51.22(c)(9) for a categorical exclusion from the requirement for an Environmental Impact Statement.

ENCLOSURE

INSERTS

For specification 6.5.1.2

The FRC shall be composed of a chairperson and members chosen as follows:

The chairperson shall be assigned by the plant manager from the first line management reporting to the plant manager.

The membership of the FRC shall be the remainder of the first line management reporting to the plant manager and senior staff.

All members shall be qualified prior to being approved by the chairperson. This qualification will be maintained while assigned to FRC activities.

For specification 6.5.3.2; COMPOSITION

The NRB shall be comprised of at least nine but not more than thirteen individuals who shall possess the necessary expertise to provide the independent review and audit functions identified in specification 6.5.3.1. The Senior Vice President-RBNG provides nominations for permanent NRB membership to the NRB Chairman for review and approval.

For specification 6.5.3.6; QUORUM

The quorum of the NRB necessary for the performance of the review and audit functions of these technical specifications shall consist of the Chairman or Vice-Chairman and at least a majority of the NRB members including alternates. No more than a minority of the quorum shall have line responsibility for the operation of the unit.