



ENTERGY

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Director
Nuclear Safety
Waterford 3

W3F1-95-0108

A4.05

PR

August 4, 1995

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

Subject: Waterford 3 SES
Docket No. 50-382
License No. NPF-38
Follow-up to the Request for Additional Information (RAI)
Regarding Generic Letter 92-08, Issued Pursuant to
10 CFR 50.54(f) dated December 29, 1994 (TAC NO. M85621)

Gentlemen:

Entergy Operations, Inc. issued a letter (W3F1-95-0047) dated March 29, 1995 to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) in response to the Commission's Request for Additional Information (RAI) dated December 29, 1994. The Entergy response provided some of the additional information requested to demonstrate that Thermo-Lag materials and configurations installed at Waterford 3 Steam Electric Station are representative of tested materials and configurations. Other information requested in the NRC December 29, 1994 letter required sending Waterford 3 installed Thermo-Lag samples to a test laboratory (NUCON) for chemical composition testing and material weight and density measurements.

Entergy committed to provide a written supplemental report to the NRC within 60 days of receipt of the NUCON test results. The NRC requested that the supplemental report confirm that the testing effort has been completed and provide the results of the tests and analyses. The supplemental report should also contain any changes to previously submitted plans or schedules that result from the tests or analyses.

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Follow-up to the Request for Additional Information (RAI) Regarding Generic Letter 92-08, Issued Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.54(f) dated December 29, 1994 (TAC NO. M85621)

W3F1-95-0108

Page 2

August 4, 1995

NUCON was sent three Thermo-Lag samples from three (of the total seven) different installed Thermo-Lag configurations for testing. Each sample was analyzed by a pyrolysis gas chromatographic test in accordance with guidance of ASTM D3452, utilizing a gas chromatograph equipped with a mass selective detector. In addition each sample was tested to determine the material density. Waterford 3 received test results from NUCON on June 6, 1995.

The NUCON test report states that inspections of pyrograms (graphs created when running a pyrolysis gas chromatographic test) indicated that the samples are similar in chemical composition to other Thermo-Lag samples. However, one sample (from fire damper FD-177) was reported as containing disproportionate amounts of characteristic compounds. The laboratory indicated that, while the sample is chemically consistent with other Thermo-Lag samples, the relative amounts of components present are widely divergent when compared to other Thermo-Lag samples. The initial conclusion indicated that this questionable sample had failed to pass the acceptance criteria.

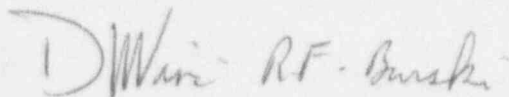
Waterford 3 verbally communicated the test results to the NRC (Waterford 3 Project Manager) on July 3, 1995, indicating that Waterford 3 was considering conducting additional testing of samples to be taken from the installation that contained the failed sample (fire damper FD-177). However, subsequent to receipt of the NUCON report and after the verbal communication with the NRC, the laboratory has provided further information which now indicates that the sample, that was earlier assessed to have failed the test, was in fact not a failure. The laboratory informed Waterford 3 Design Engineering personnel via telecom on July 25, 1995 that after factoring in all of the test results from other sites, a reassessment of the Waterford 3 sample was made. The laboratory no longer considers the relative amounts of components present to be widely divergent when compared to other Thermo-Lag samples.

- Follow-up to the Request for Additional Information (RAI) Regarding Generic Letter 92-08, Issued Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.54(f) dated December 29, 1994 (TAC NO. M85621)
W3F1-95-0108
Page 3
August 4, 1995

NUCON will be providing Waterford 3 with an updated report documenting the reassessed conclusions. NUCON indicates that the updated report should be submitted to Waterford 3 by mid-August 1995. Waterford 3 will provide the NRC with the requested supplemental report within 60 days of receipt of the NUCON updated report.

If you have any questions concerning the report, please contact O.P. Pipkins at (504) 739-6707.

Very truly yours,



R.F. Burski
Director
Nuclear Safety

RFB/OPP/ssf

cc: L.J. Callan, NRC Region IV
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